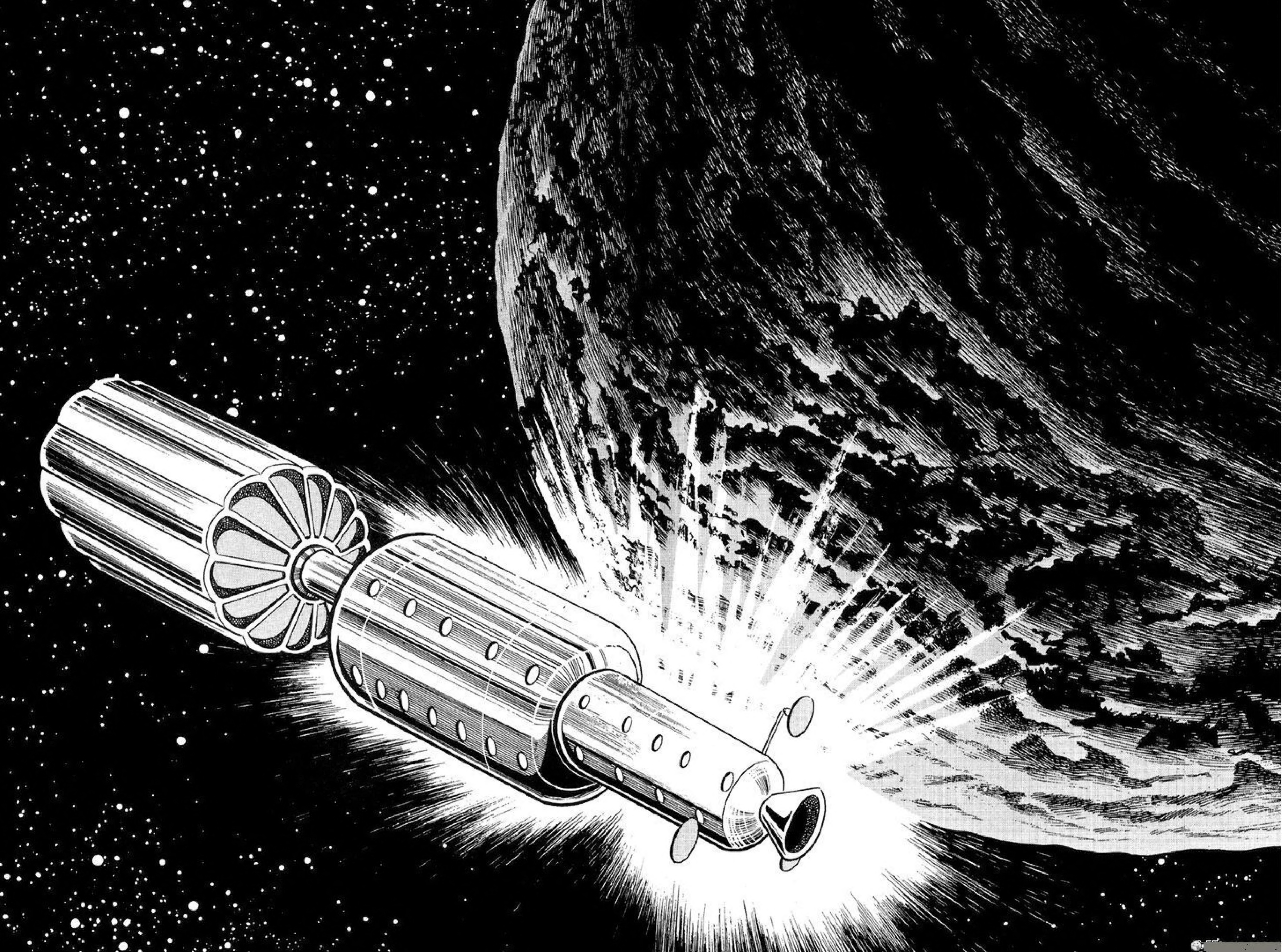


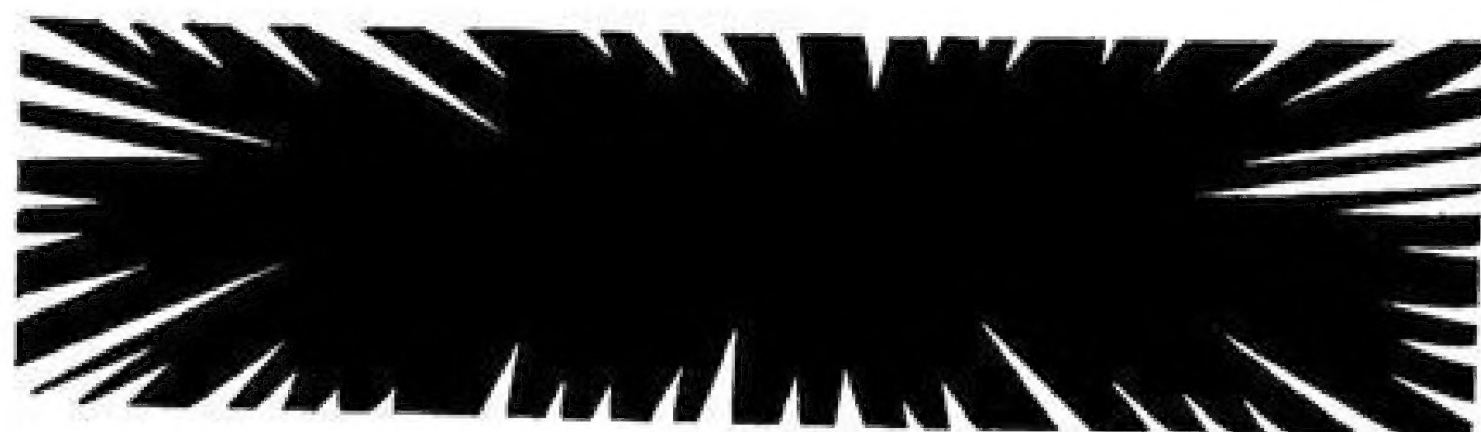
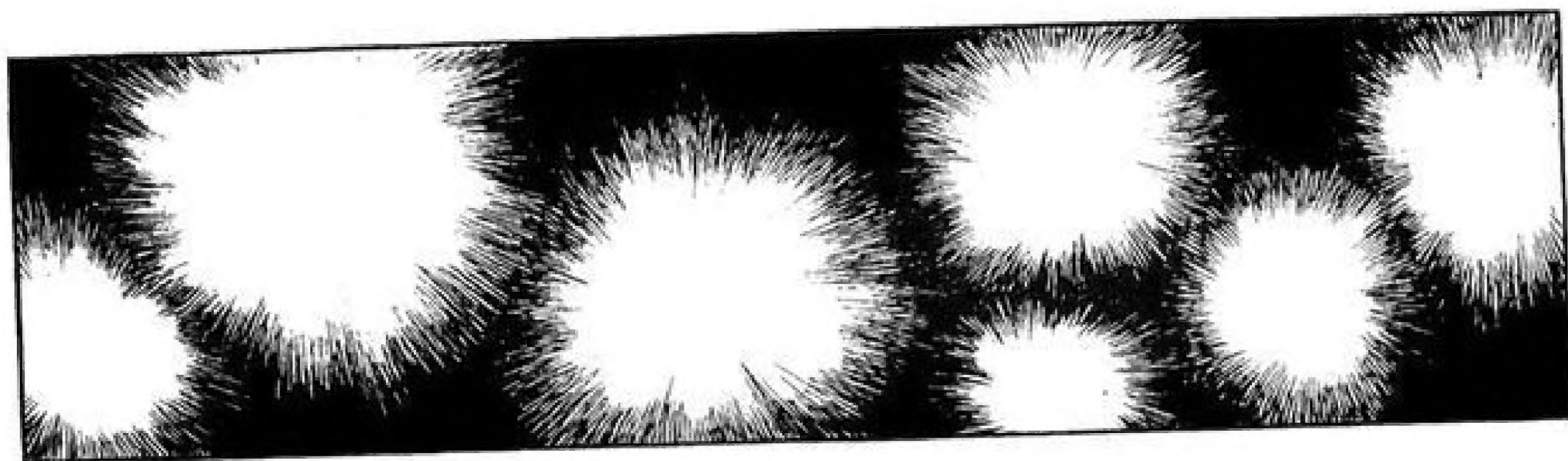


phoenix

SPACE

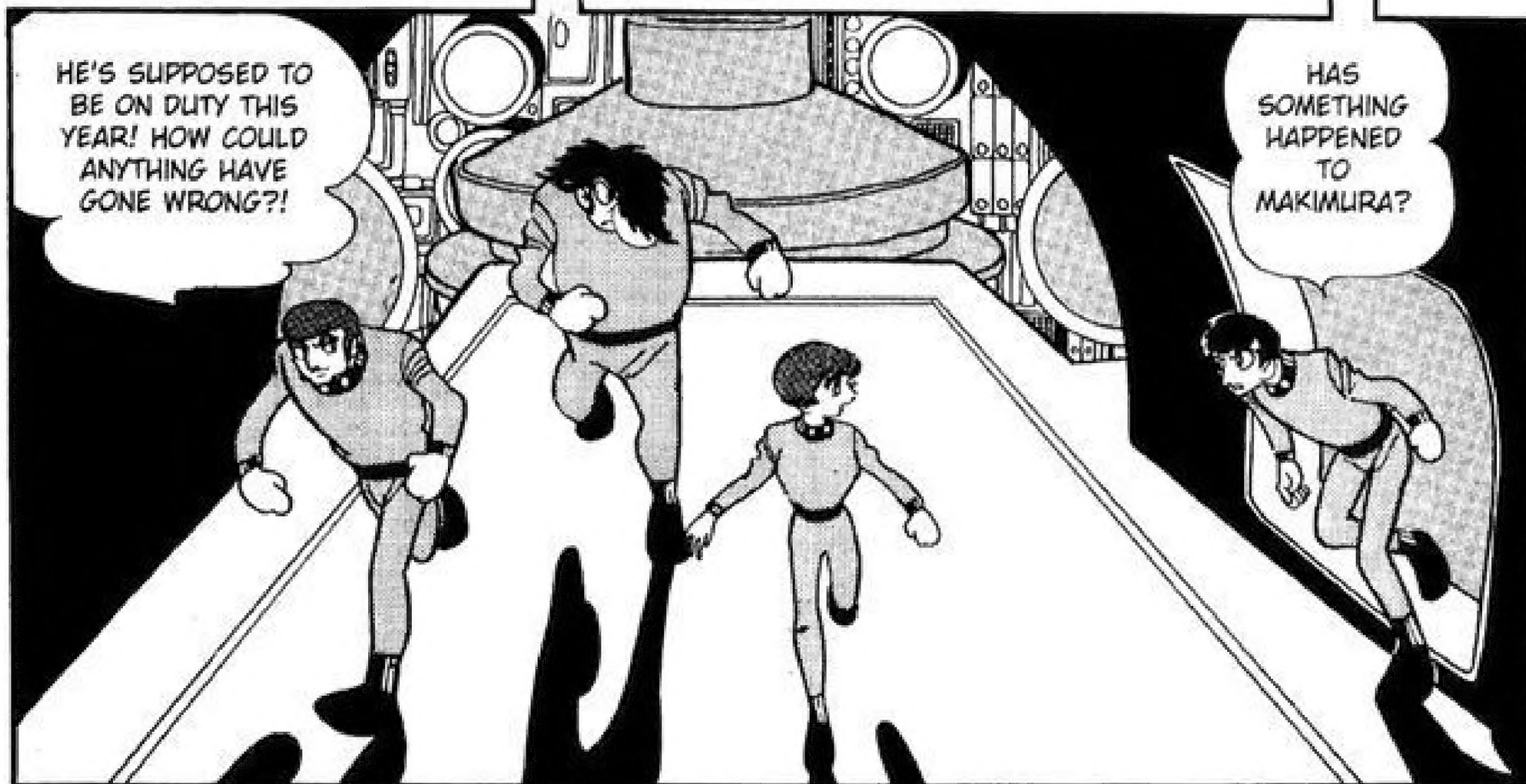
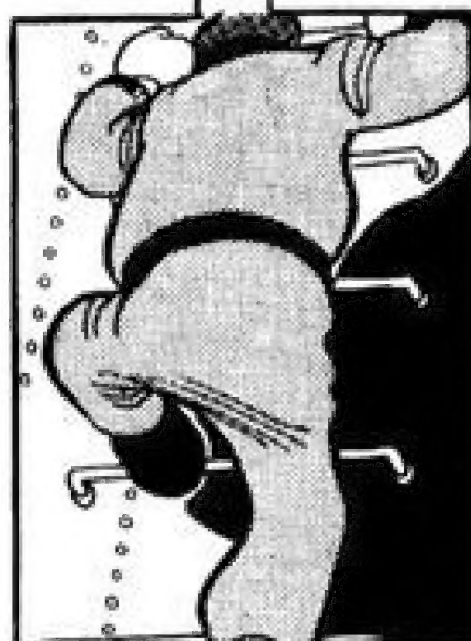
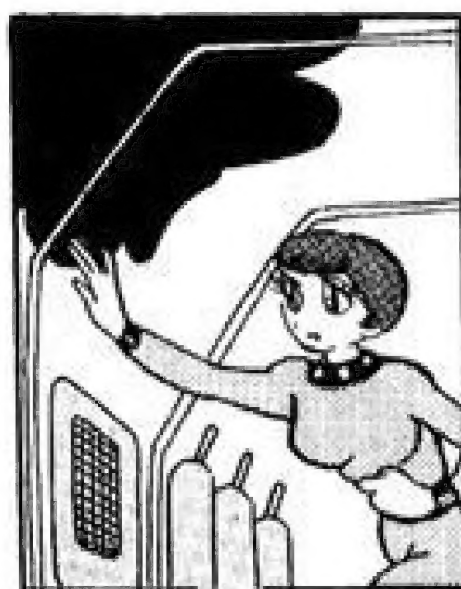
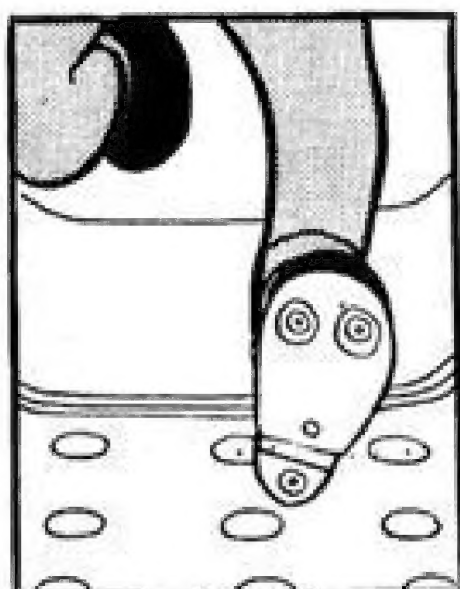
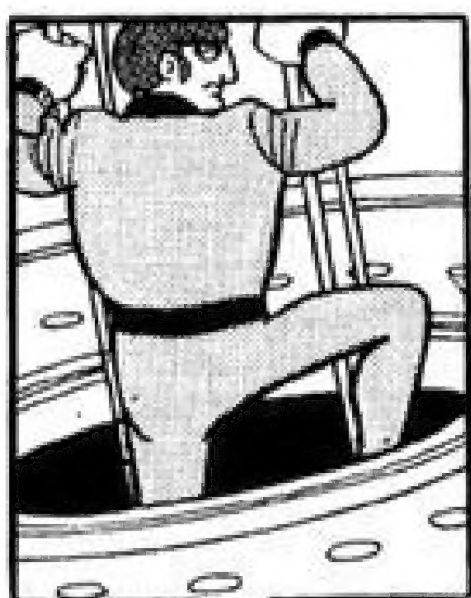
BY OSAMU TEZUKA

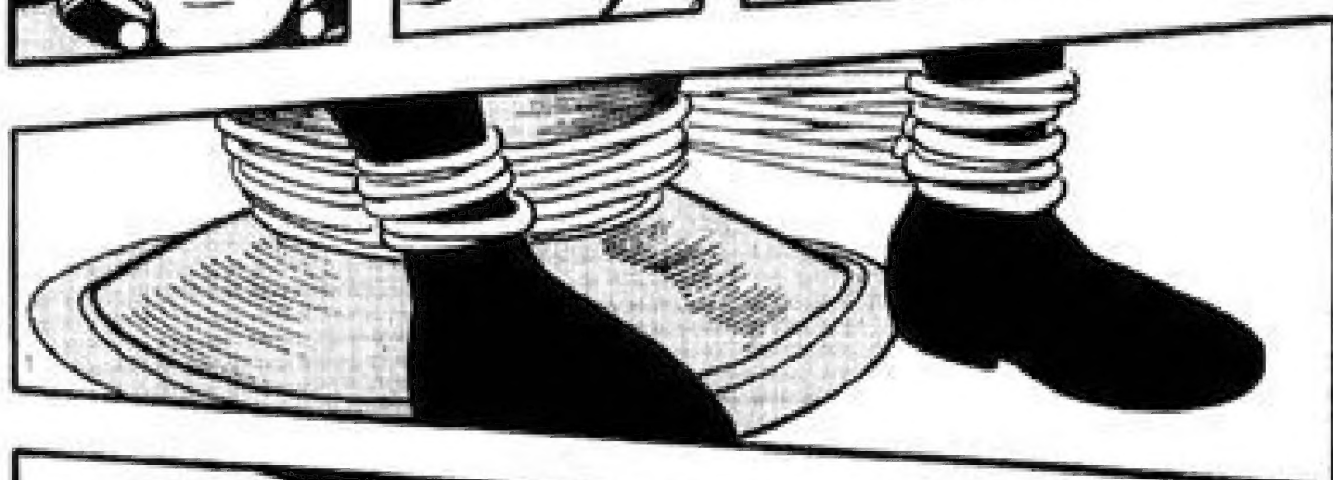
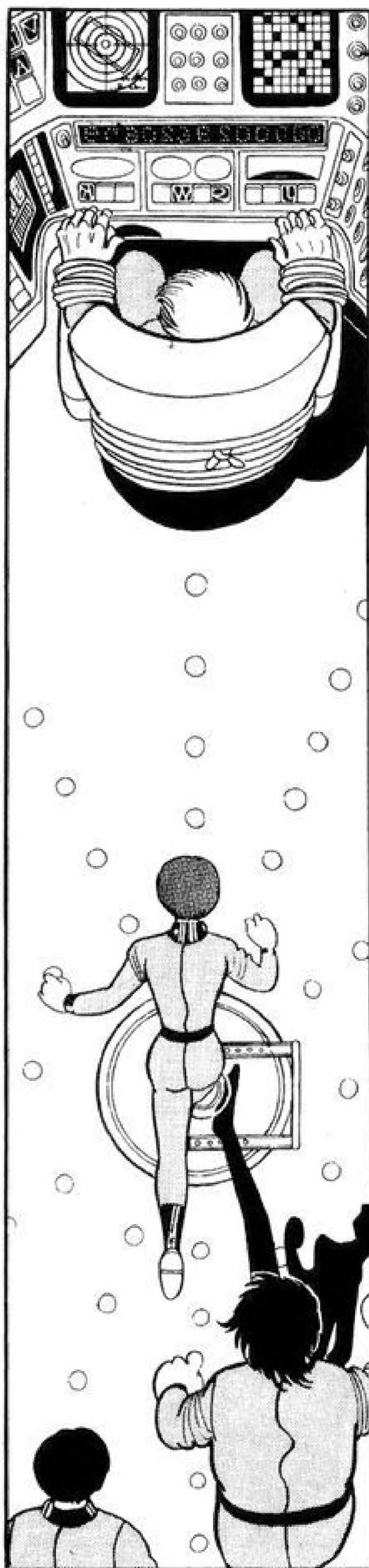


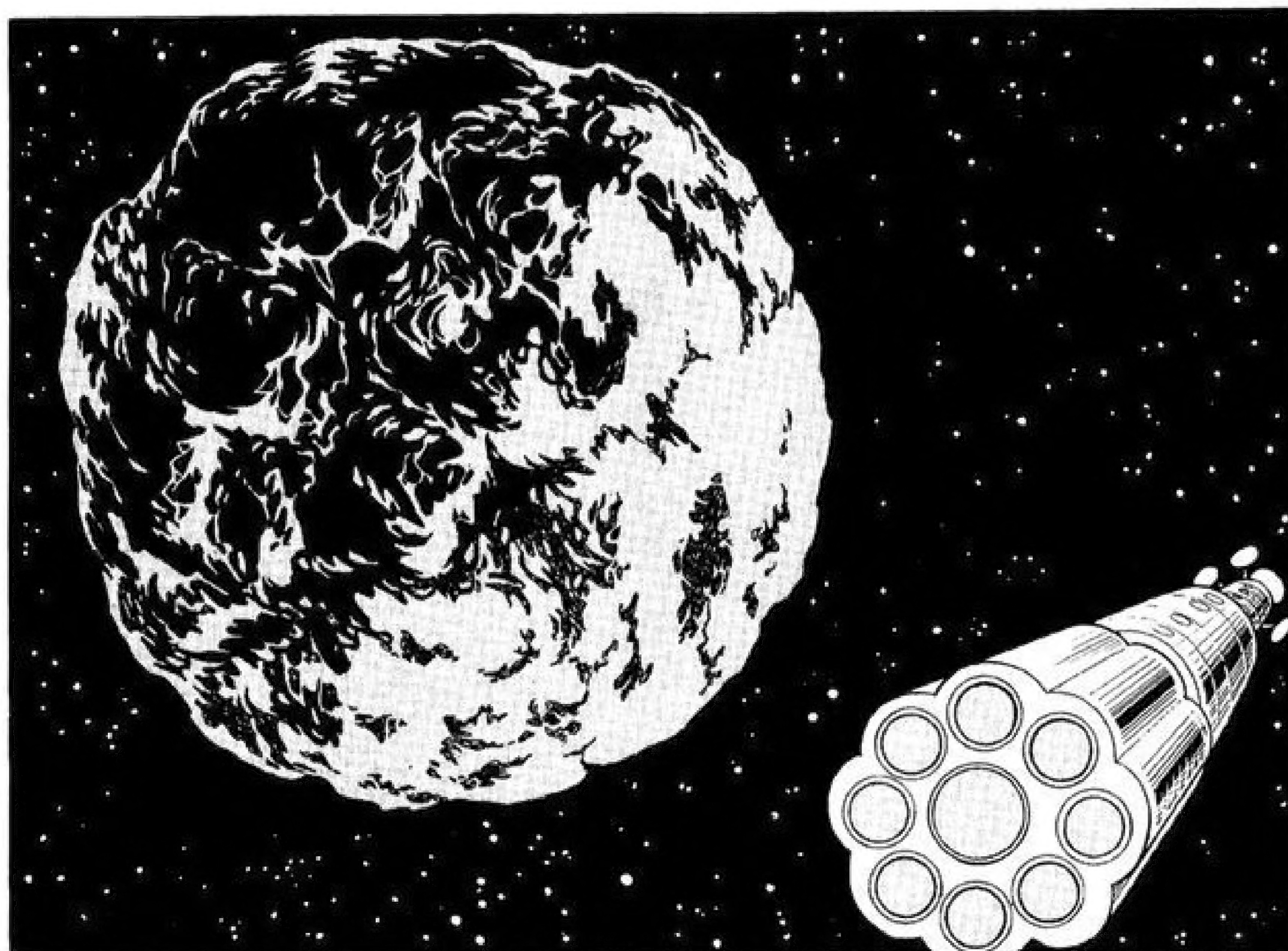


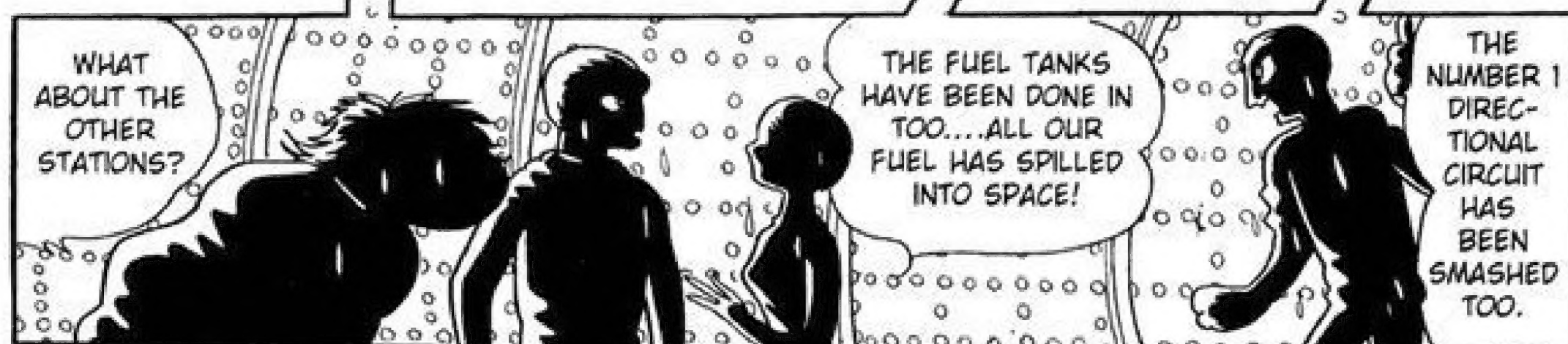
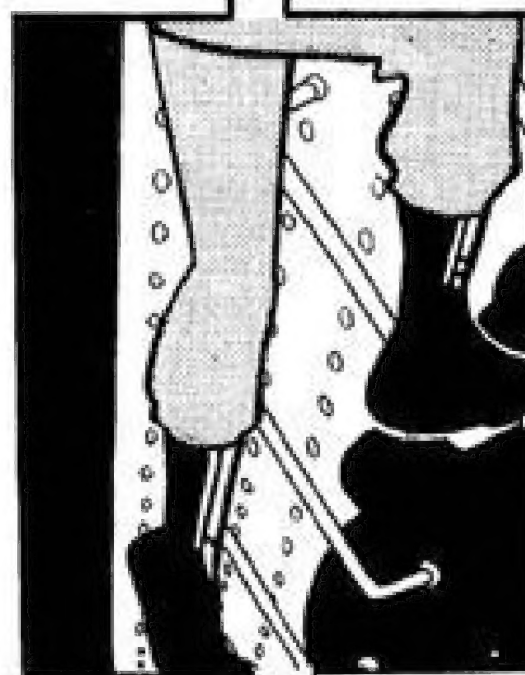
2577 A.D.
SOMEWHERE IN SPACE NEAR
BETELGEUSE IN THE
CONSTELLATION OF ORION...





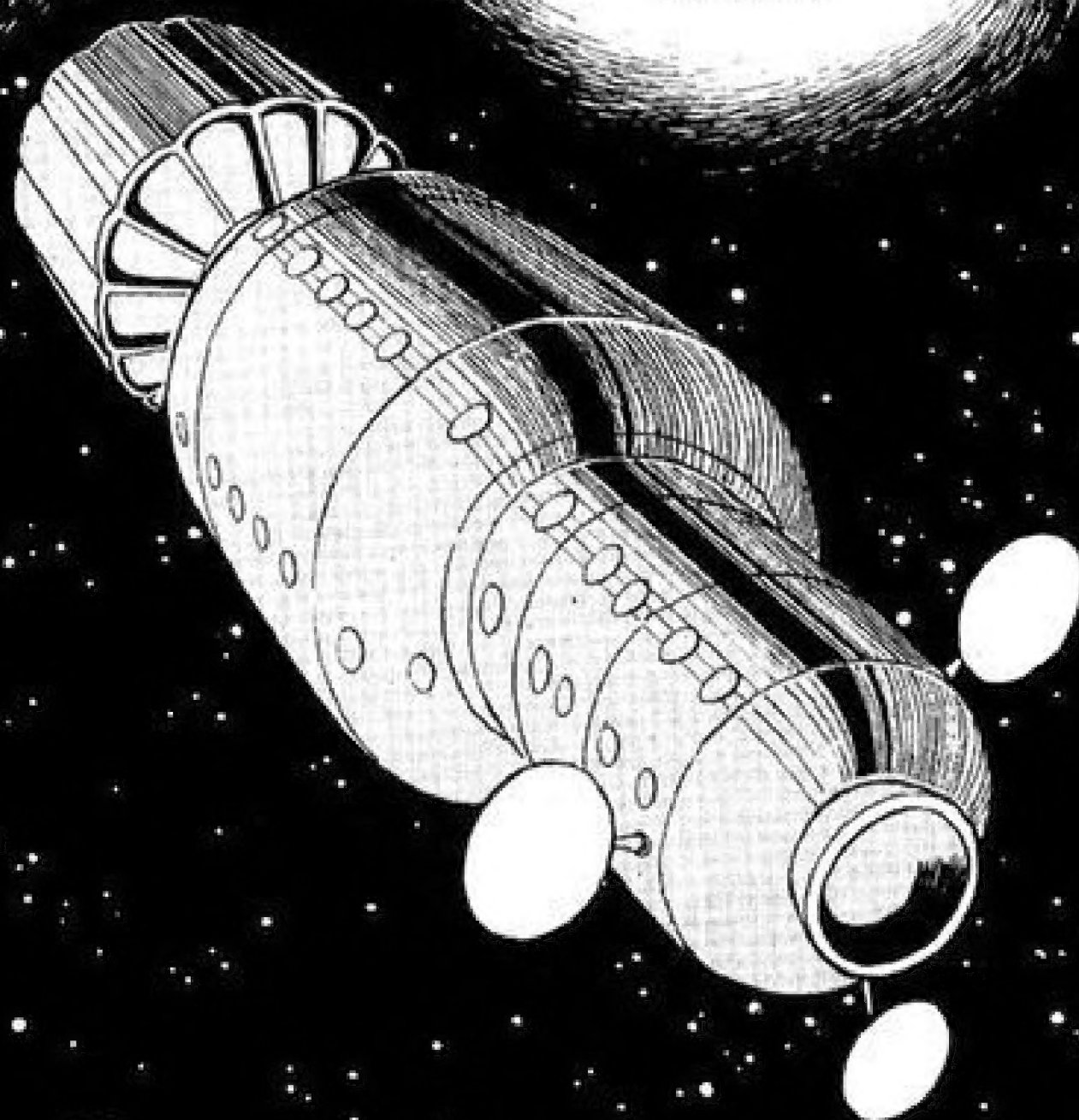




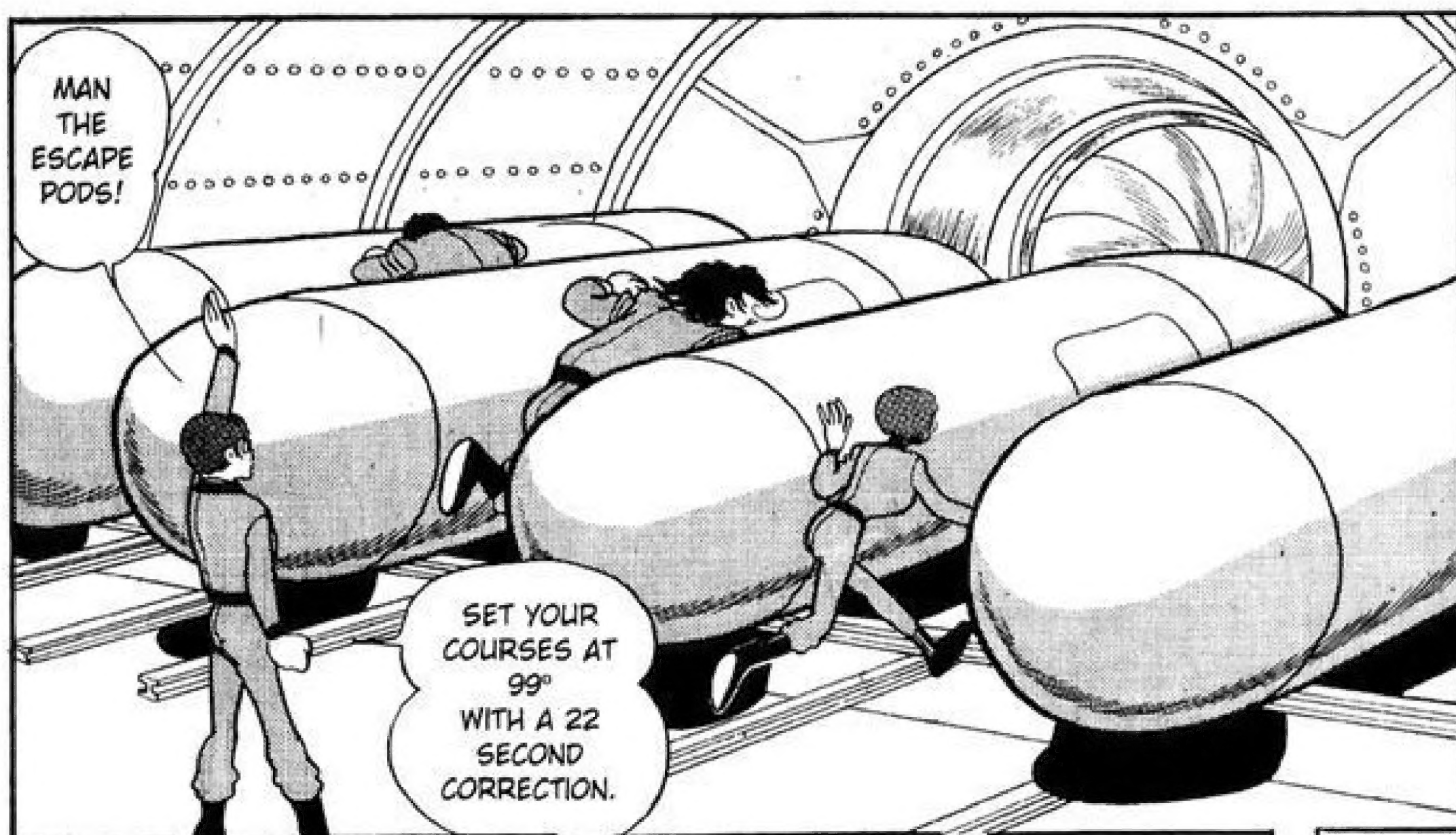


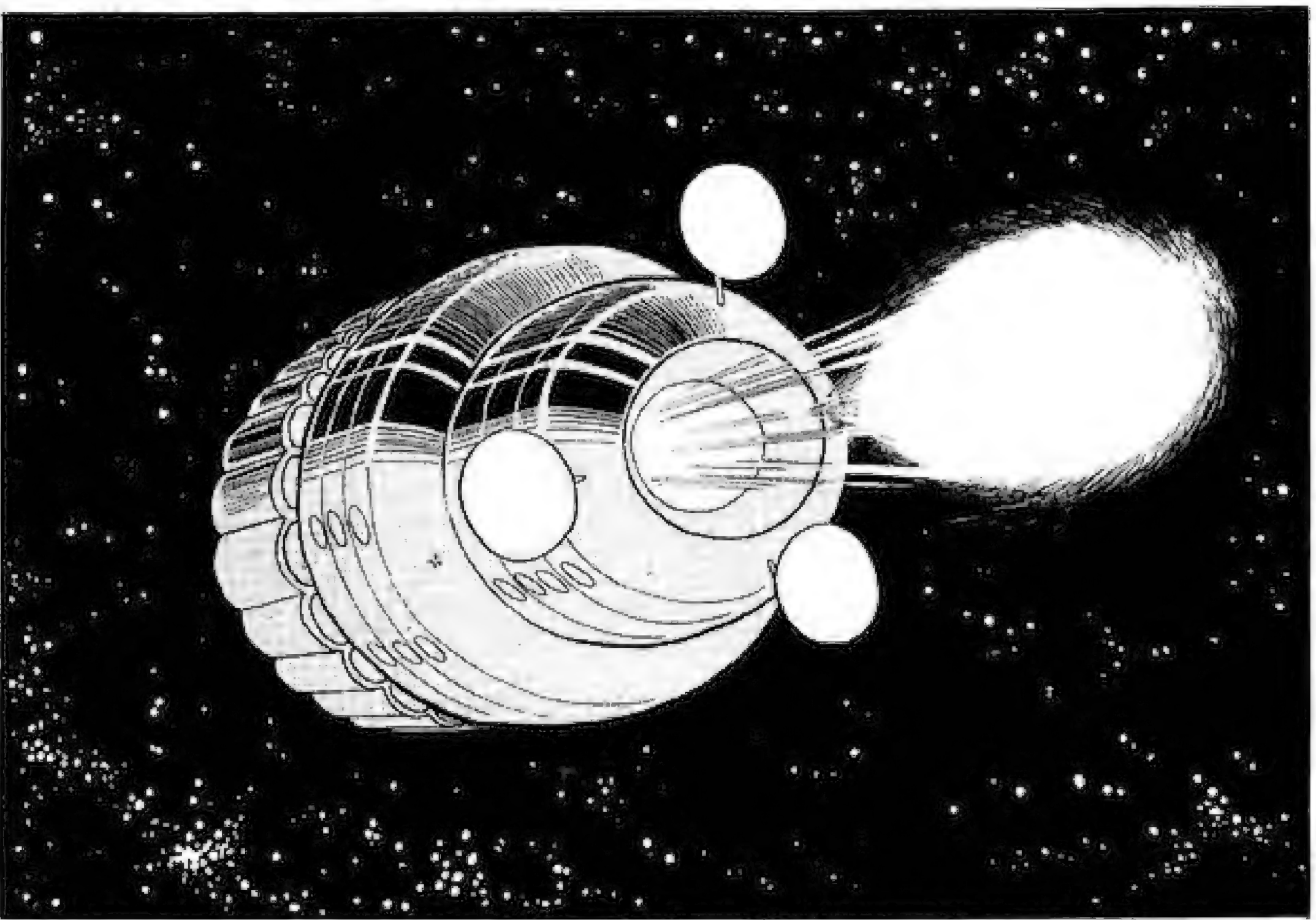
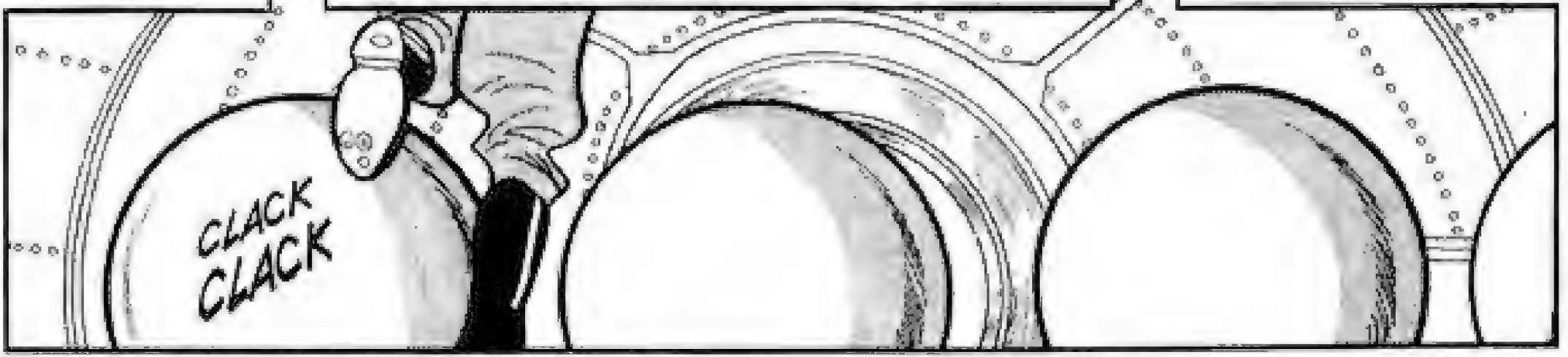
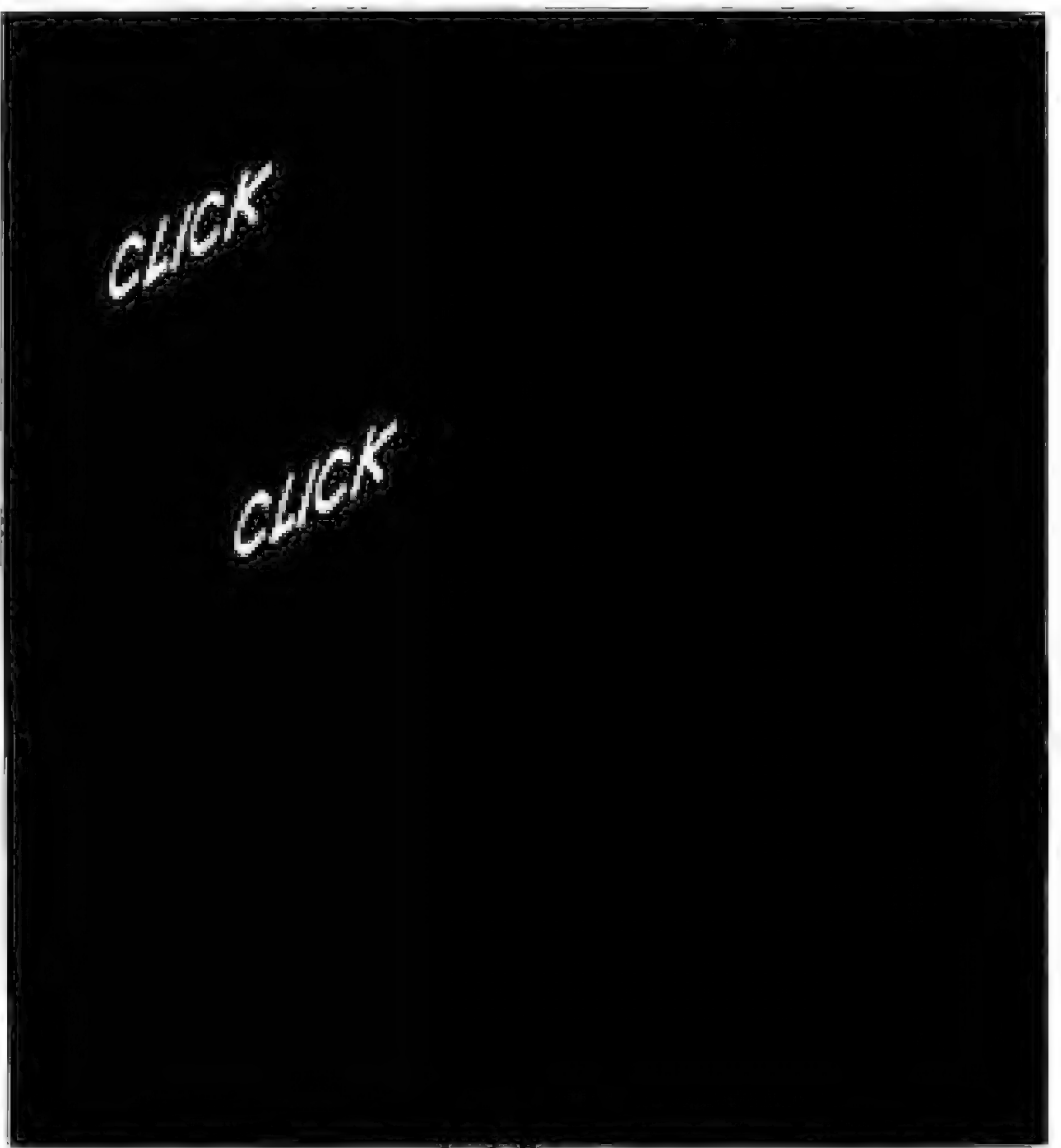
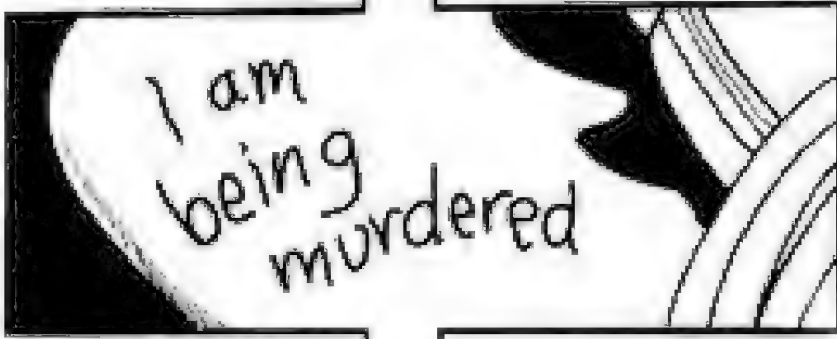
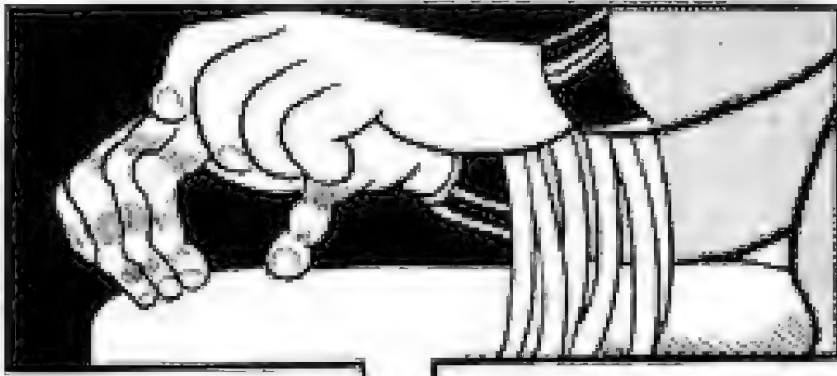
"AS CAPTAIN I
REGRET HAVING TO
ISSUE THIS
ORDER...MAN YOUR
EMERGENCY PODS
AND PREPARE TO
ABANDON SHIP!"

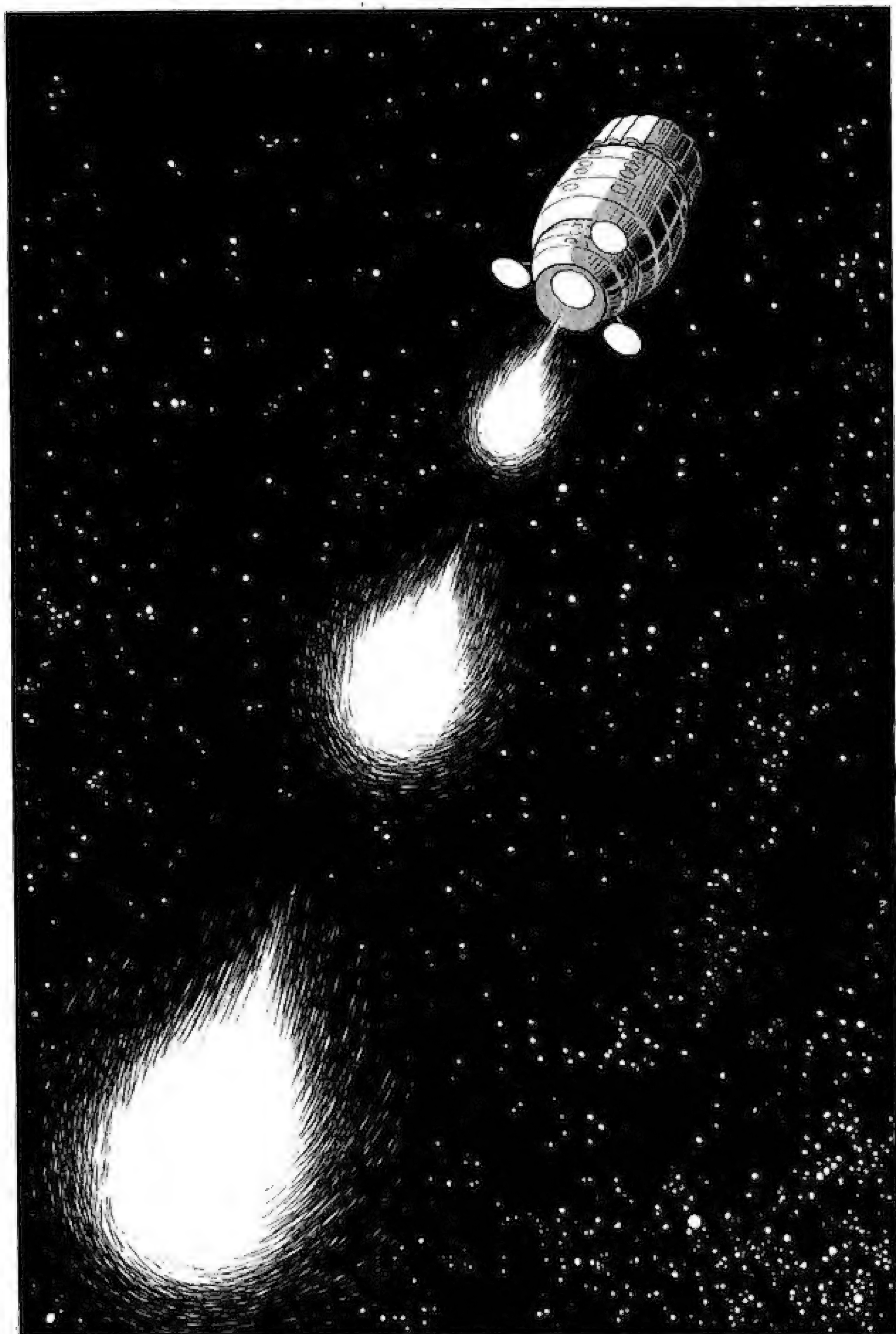
"I MUST WARN YOU,
HOWEVER, THAT EACH
POD CONTAINS ONLY SIX
MONTHS WORTH OF
PROVISIONS AND
ENOUGH OXYGEN TO
LAST A YEAR AND A
HALF. WITH THIS WE
WILL DRIFT IN SPACE
UNTIL RESCUED...
I HOPE..."

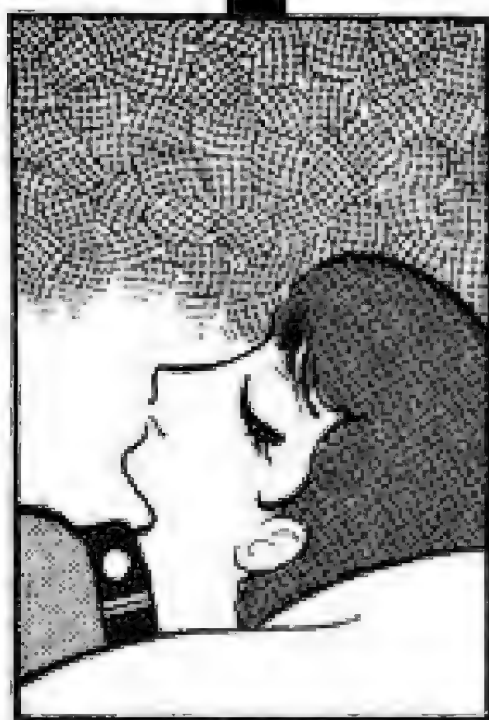
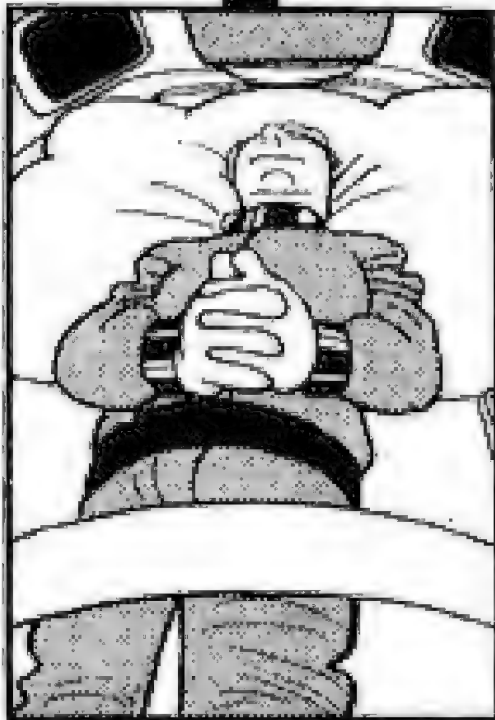
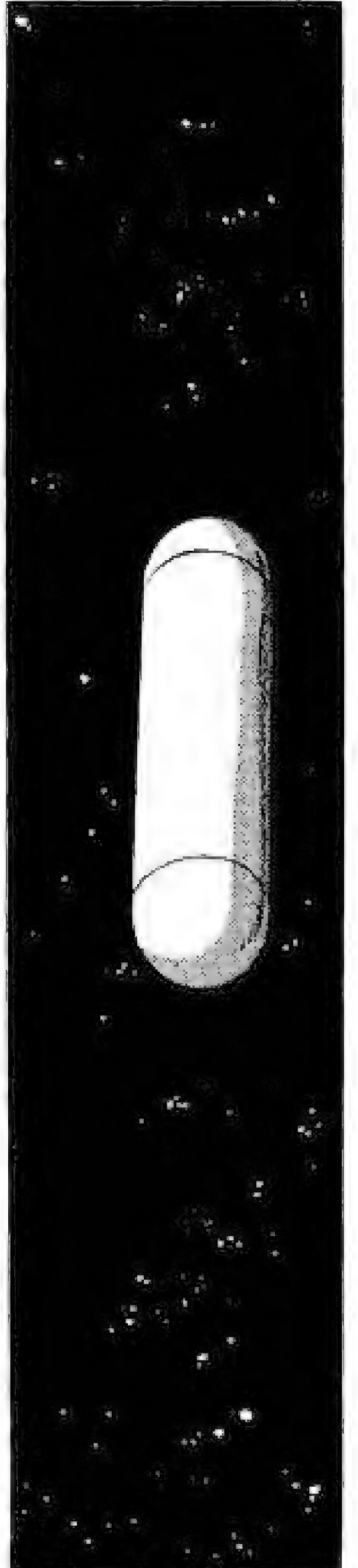
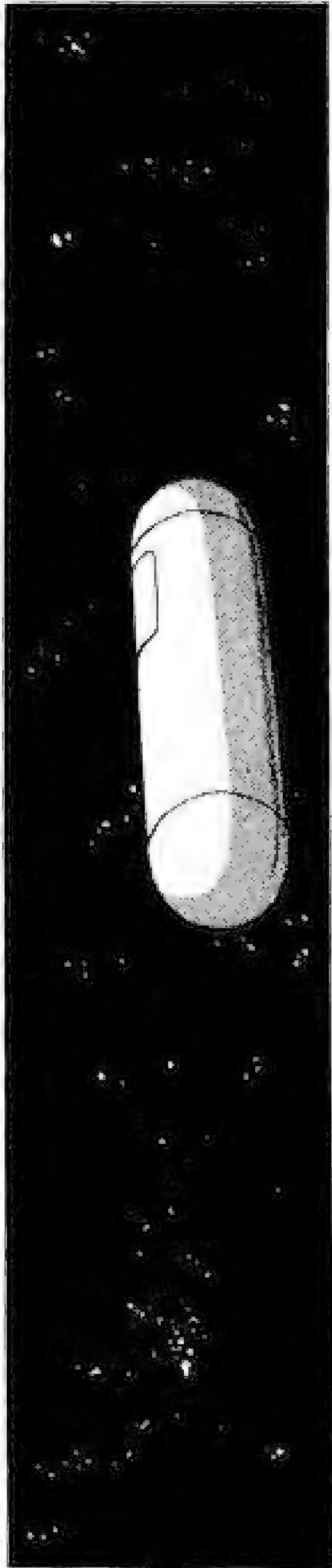
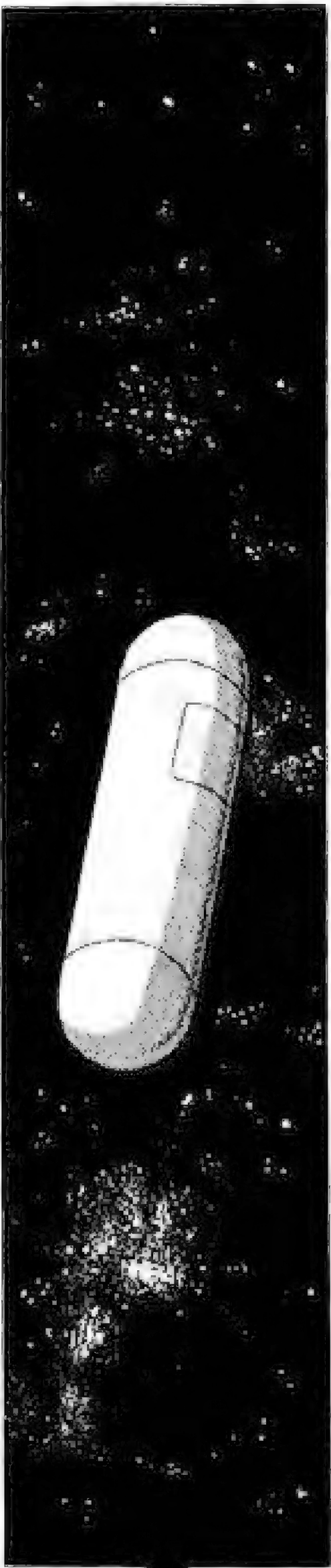


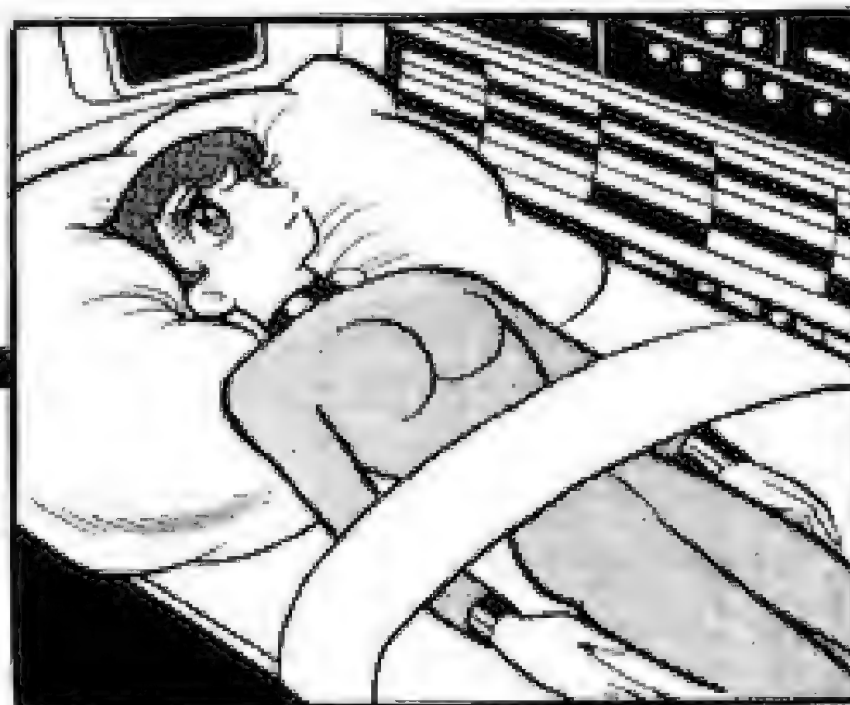
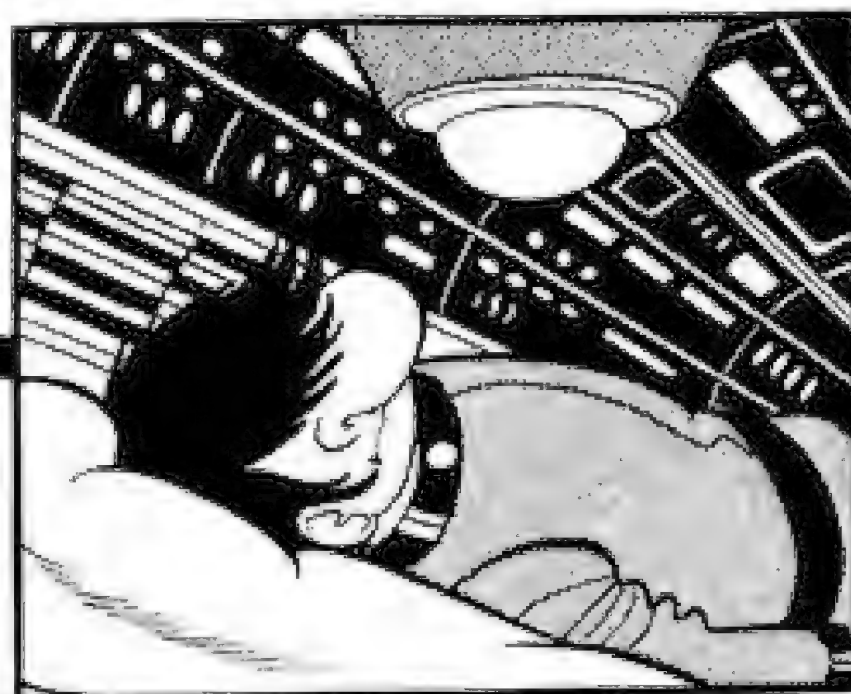


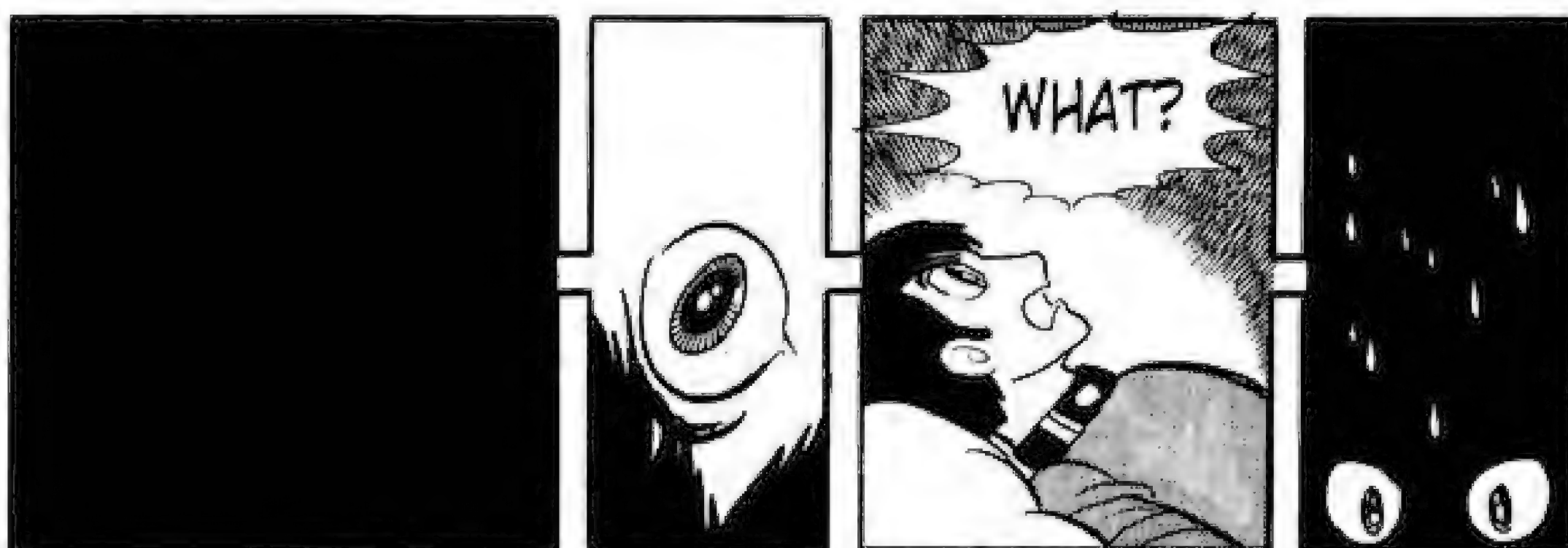
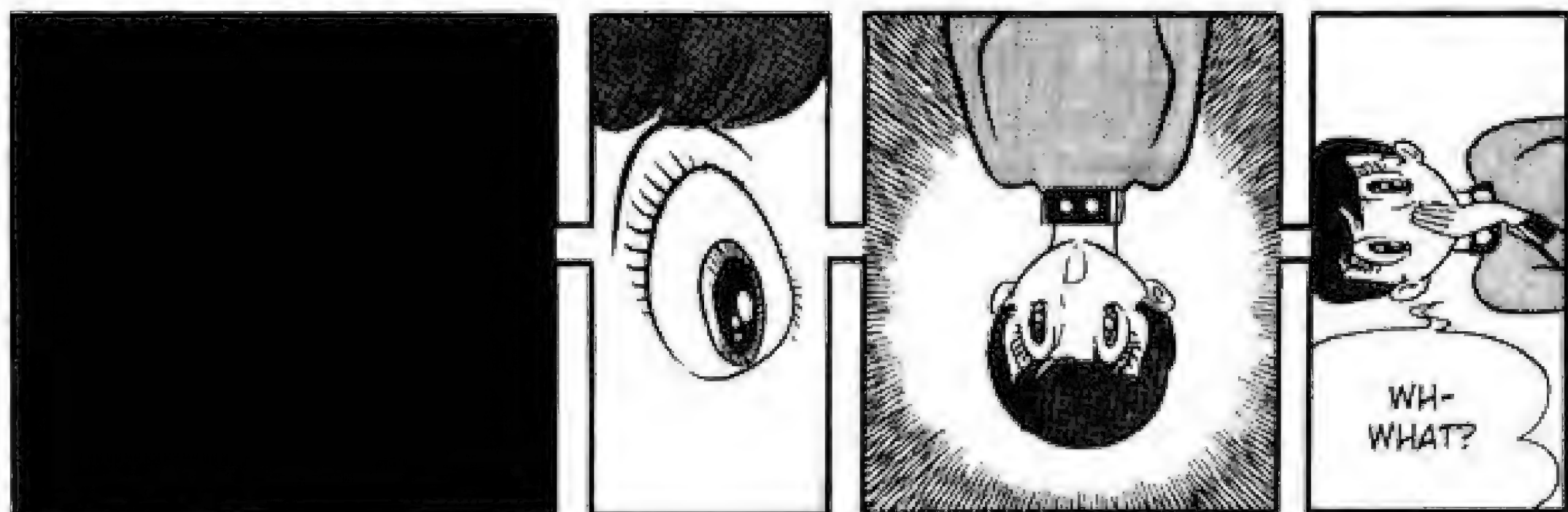
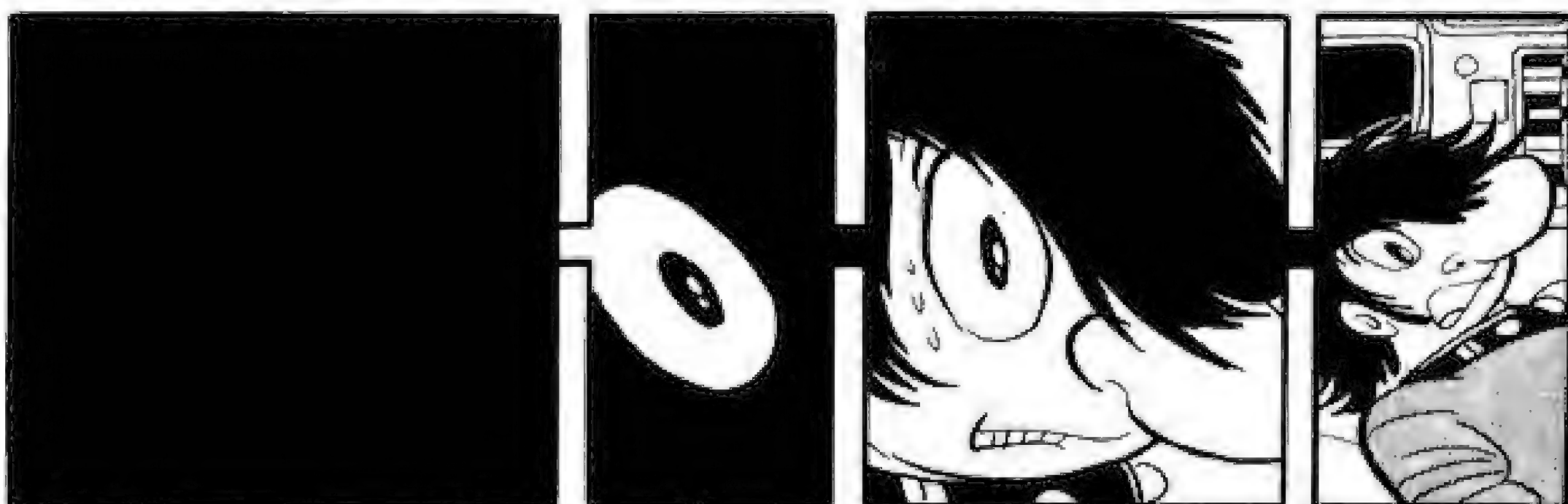
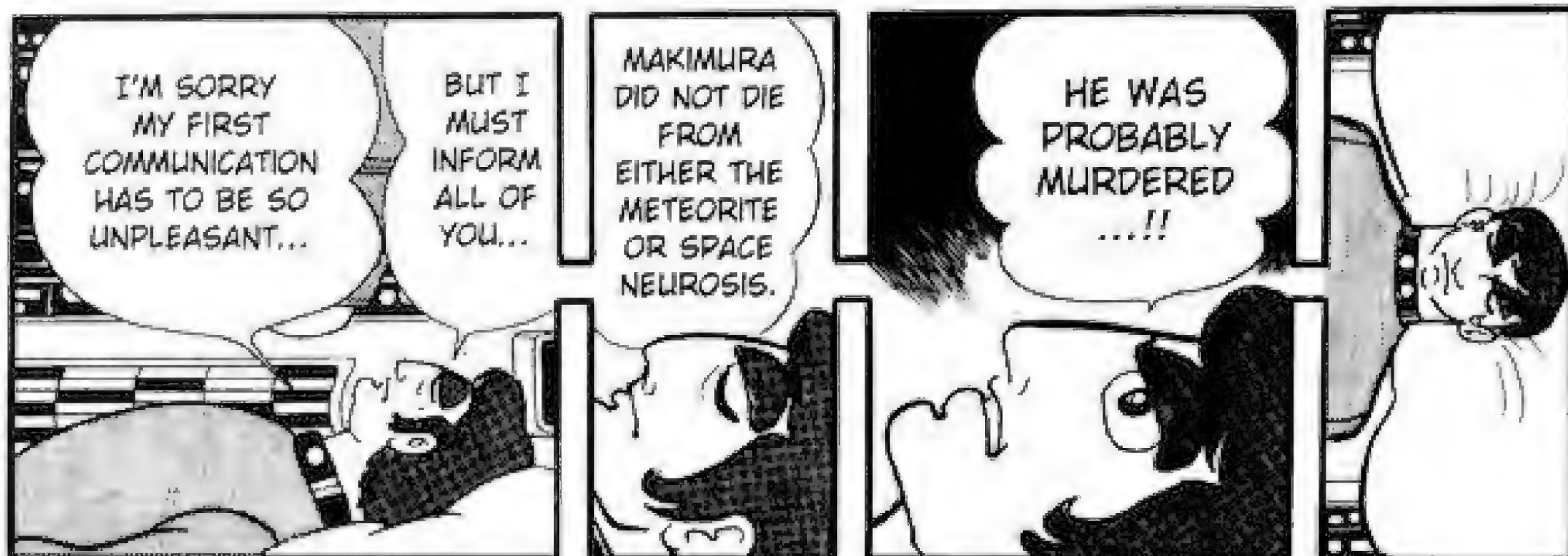






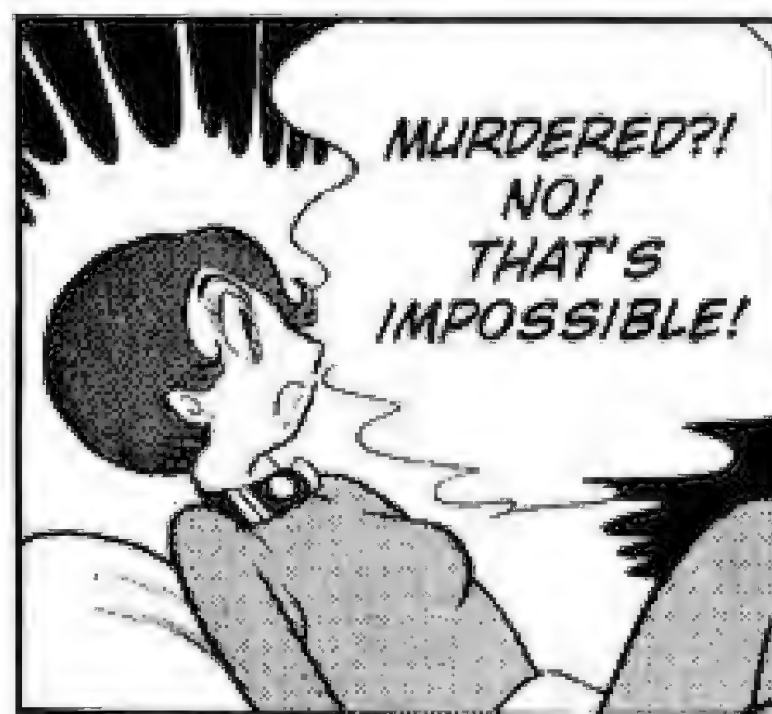
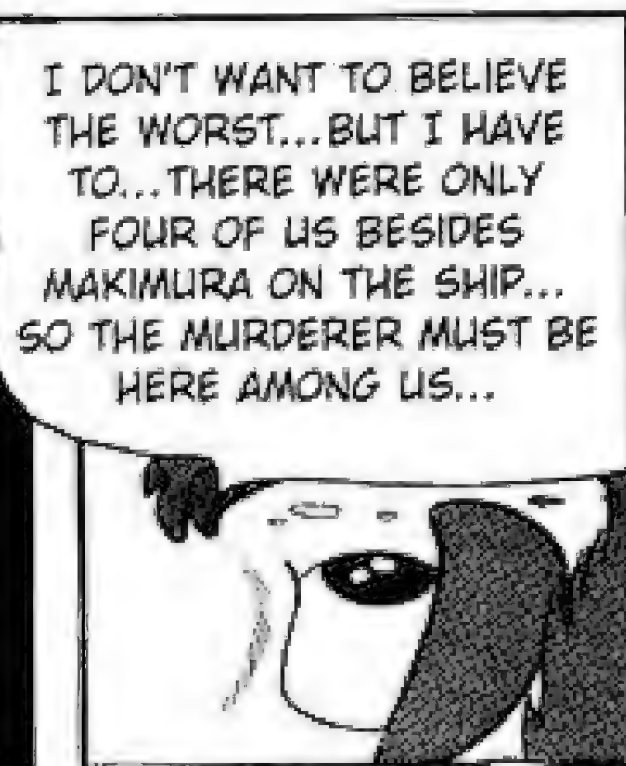
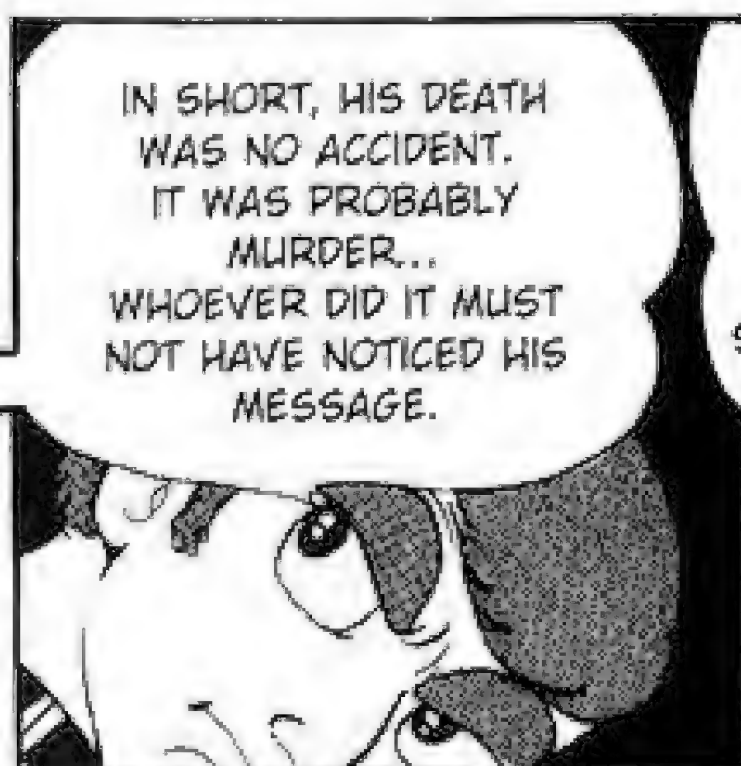








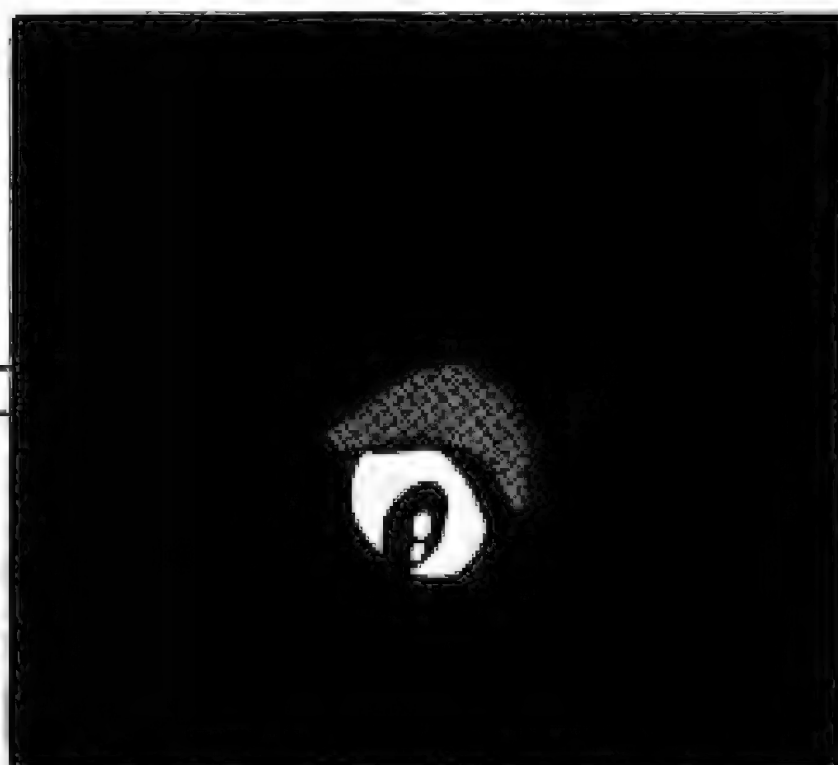
"I AM BEING MURDERED."



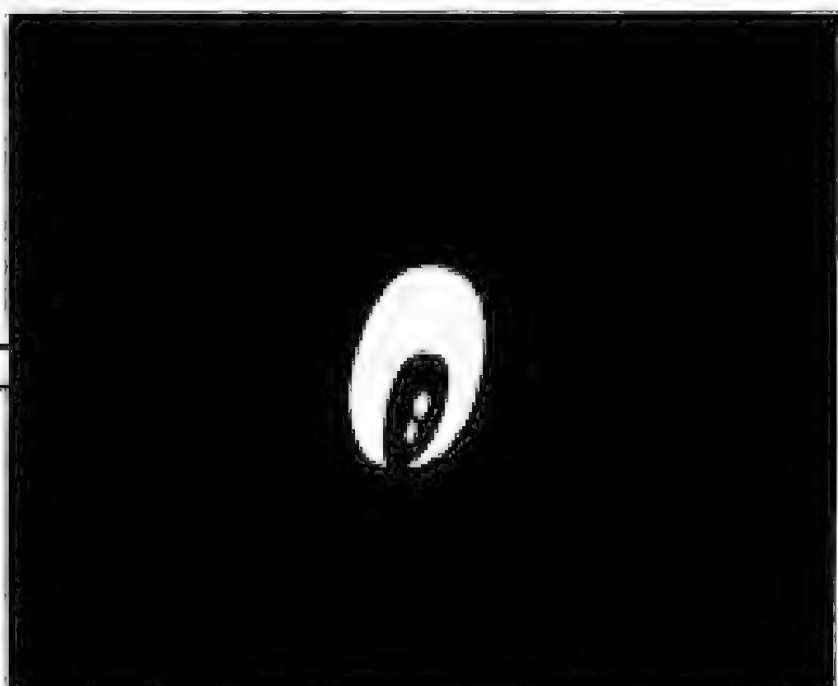
I HAVE CONFIDENCE IN ALL
OF YOU...BUT I WOULD
LIKE FOR THE PERSON
RESPONSIBLE TO
CONFESS, THAT'S ALL.
THEN WE CAN FORGET IT...



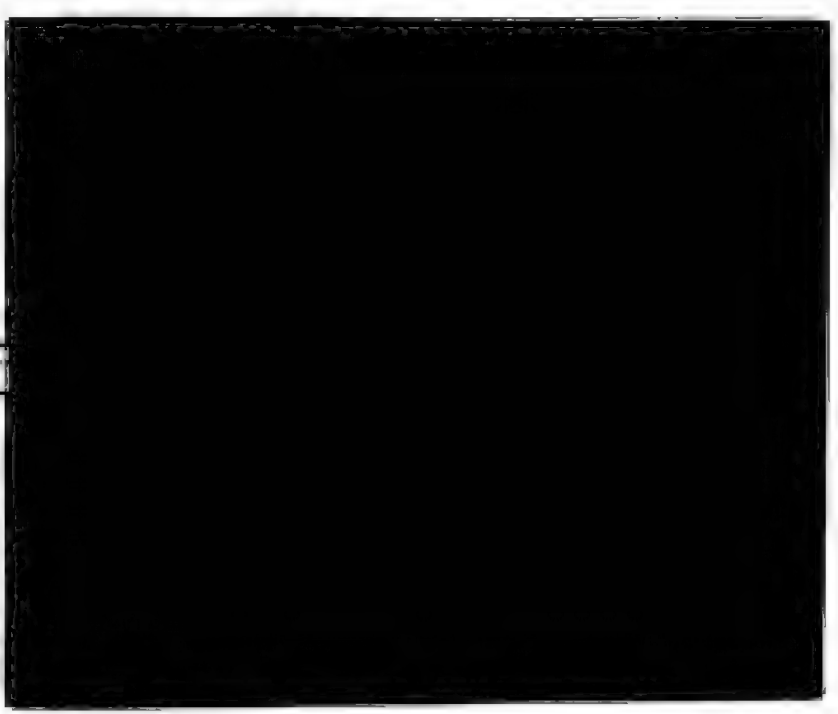
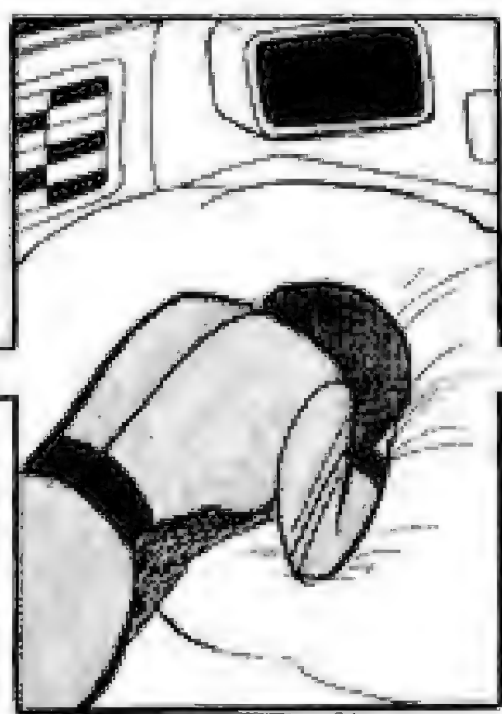
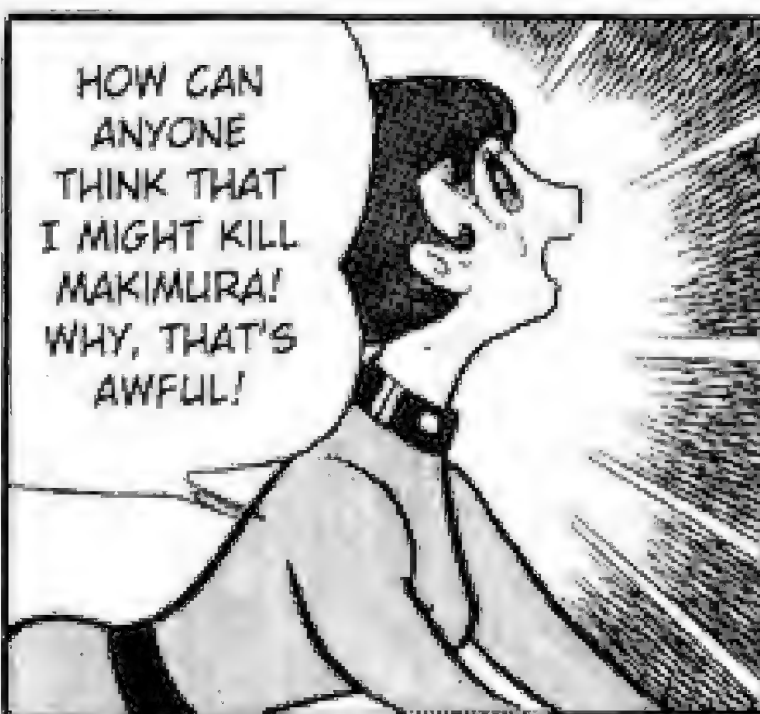
SOMEONE
ANSWER ME!
KIZAKI! WHY
DON'T YOU SAY
ANYTHING?!



IT WASN'T ME!
I WOULDN'T HAVE
ANY REASON TO
KILL MAKIMURA!!



HOW CAN
ANYONE
THINK THAT
I MIGHT KILL
MAKIMURA!
WHY, THAT'S
AWFUL!



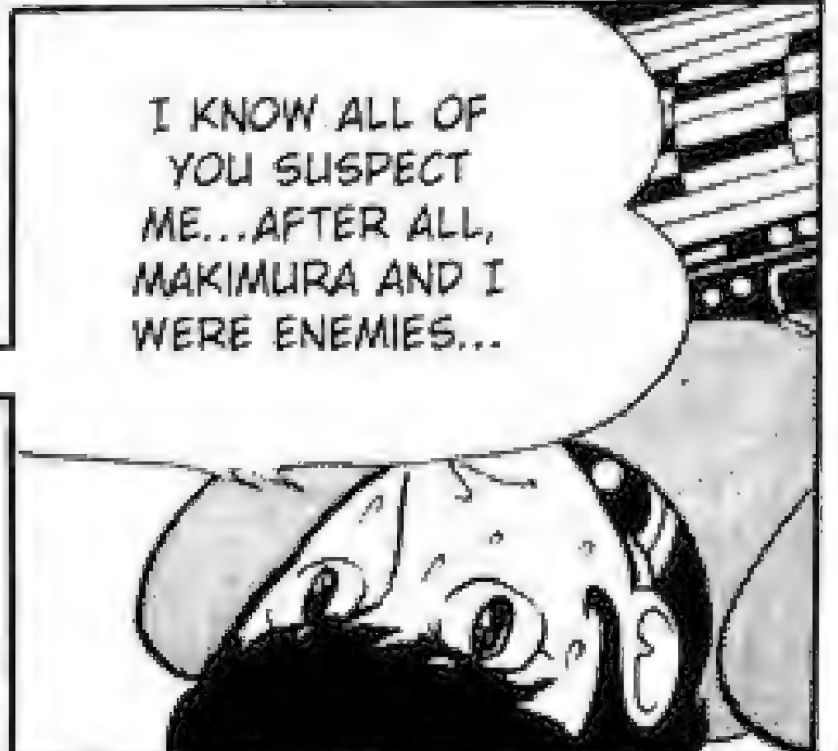
.....



.....



I KNOW ALL OF
YOU SUSPECT
ME...AFTER ALL,
MAKIMURA AND I
WERE ENEMIES...





WELL, KIZAKI, YOU
AND MAKIMURA
WERE RIVALS FOR
NANA, AND BOTH OF
YOU DID CONFESS
YOUR LOVE TO HER.

STOP!!



STOP!
ENOUGH!

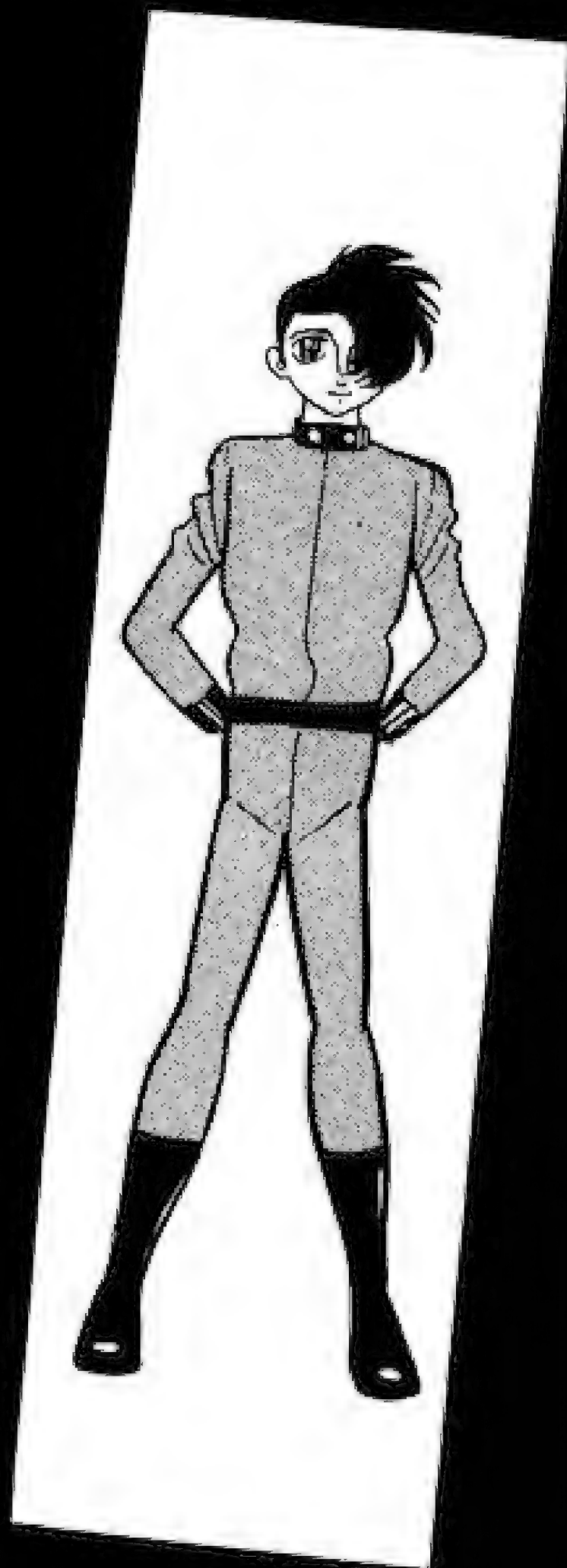
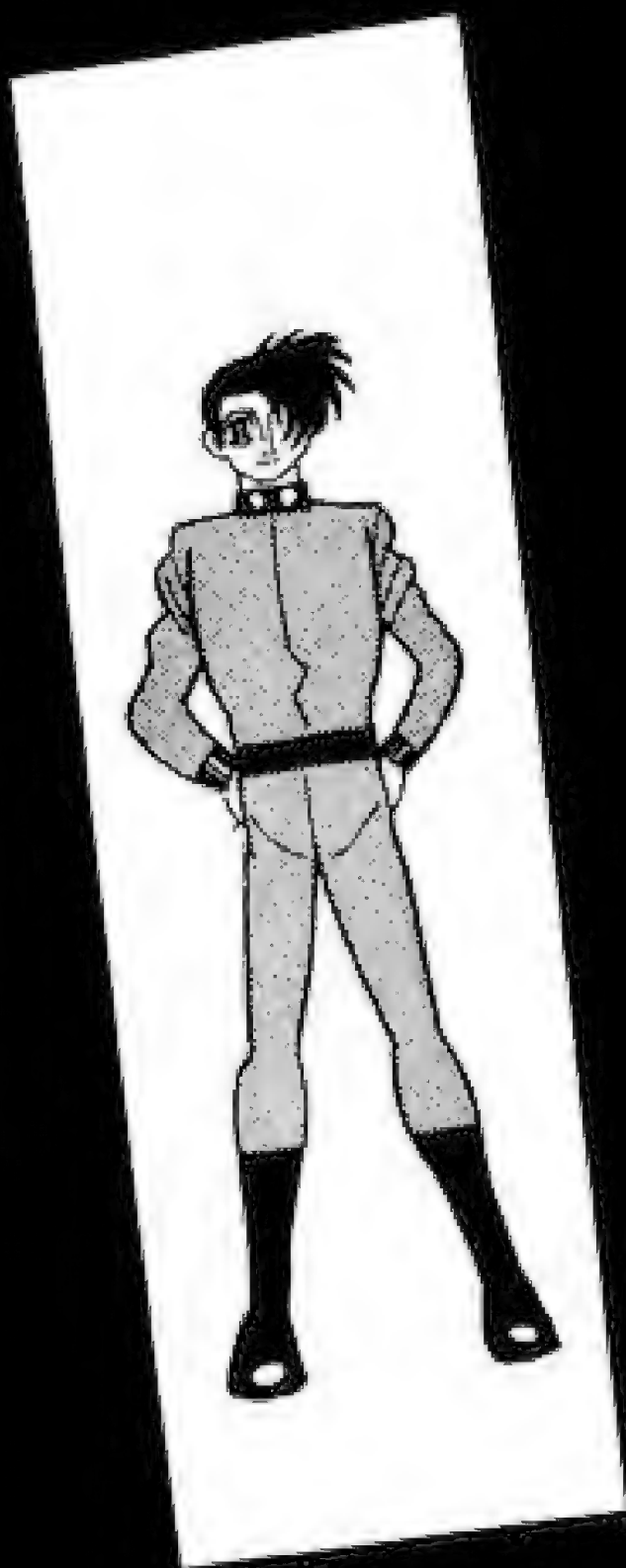


STOP!!

THAT'S
RIGHT!
I WAS
JEALOUS
OF
MAKIMURA'S
MIND AND
SKILL!

BUT IN
ANOTHER
SENSE I
ALSO
RESPECTED
HIM...AND
AS FOR HIM,
HE JUST
AVOIDED ME.







WHAT'S
THE MATTER
WITH YOU
TWO?!



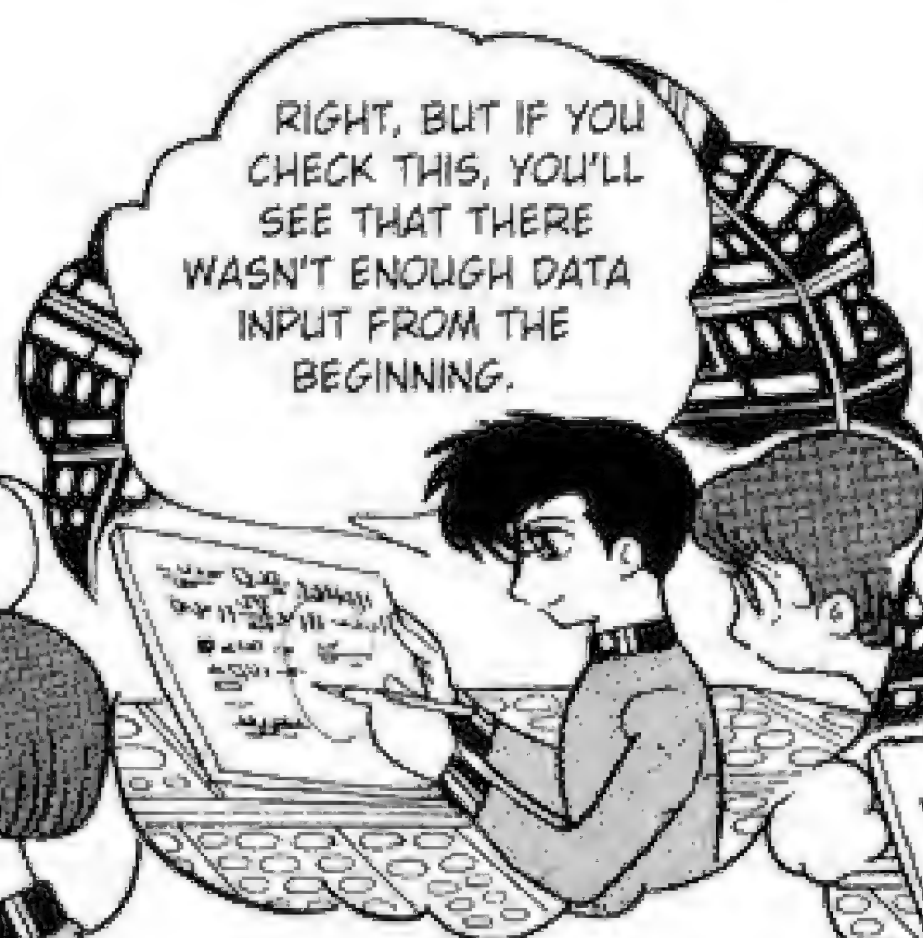
SOMETIMES I
FEEL LIKE
FLOORING
HIM...



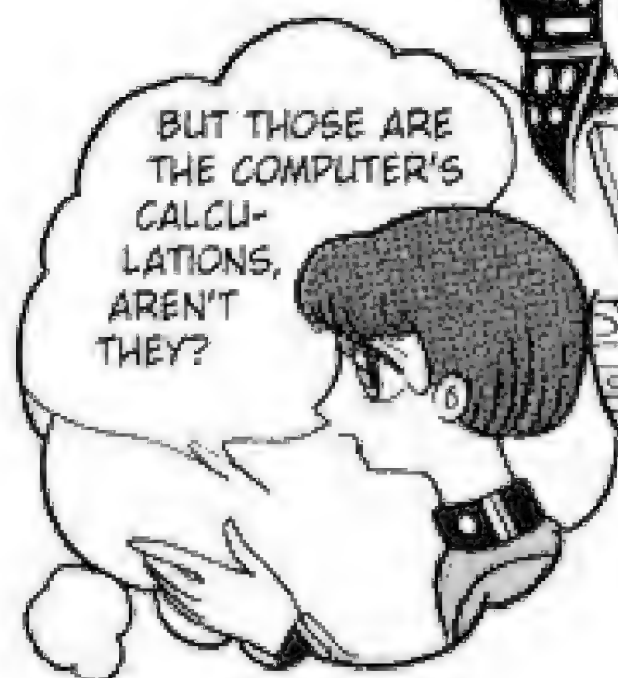
HOW DARE
YOU SAY
SUCH A
THING,
KIZAKI?!



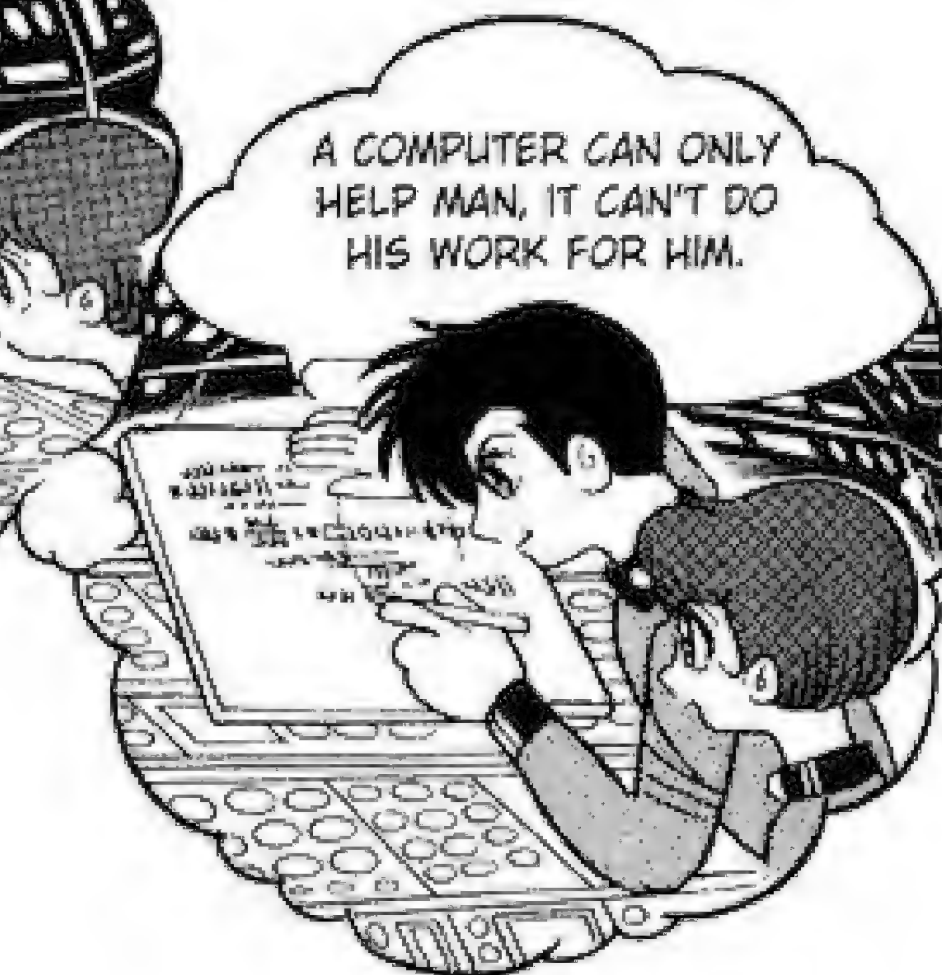
THAT MAKIMURA
IS TOO SMART
FOR HIS OWN
GOOD.



RIGHT, BUT IF YOU
CHECK THIS, YOU'LL
SEE THAT THERE
WASN'T ENOUGH DATA
INPUT FROM THE
BEGINNING.



BUT THOSE ARE
THE COMPUTER'S
CALCU-
LATIONS,
AREN'T
THEY?



A COMPUTER CAN ONLY
HELP MAN, IT CAN'T DO
HIS WORK FOR HIM.





NANA...
I LOVE
YOU...



NO
MAKIMURA...
WE'RE ON DUTY
NOW.



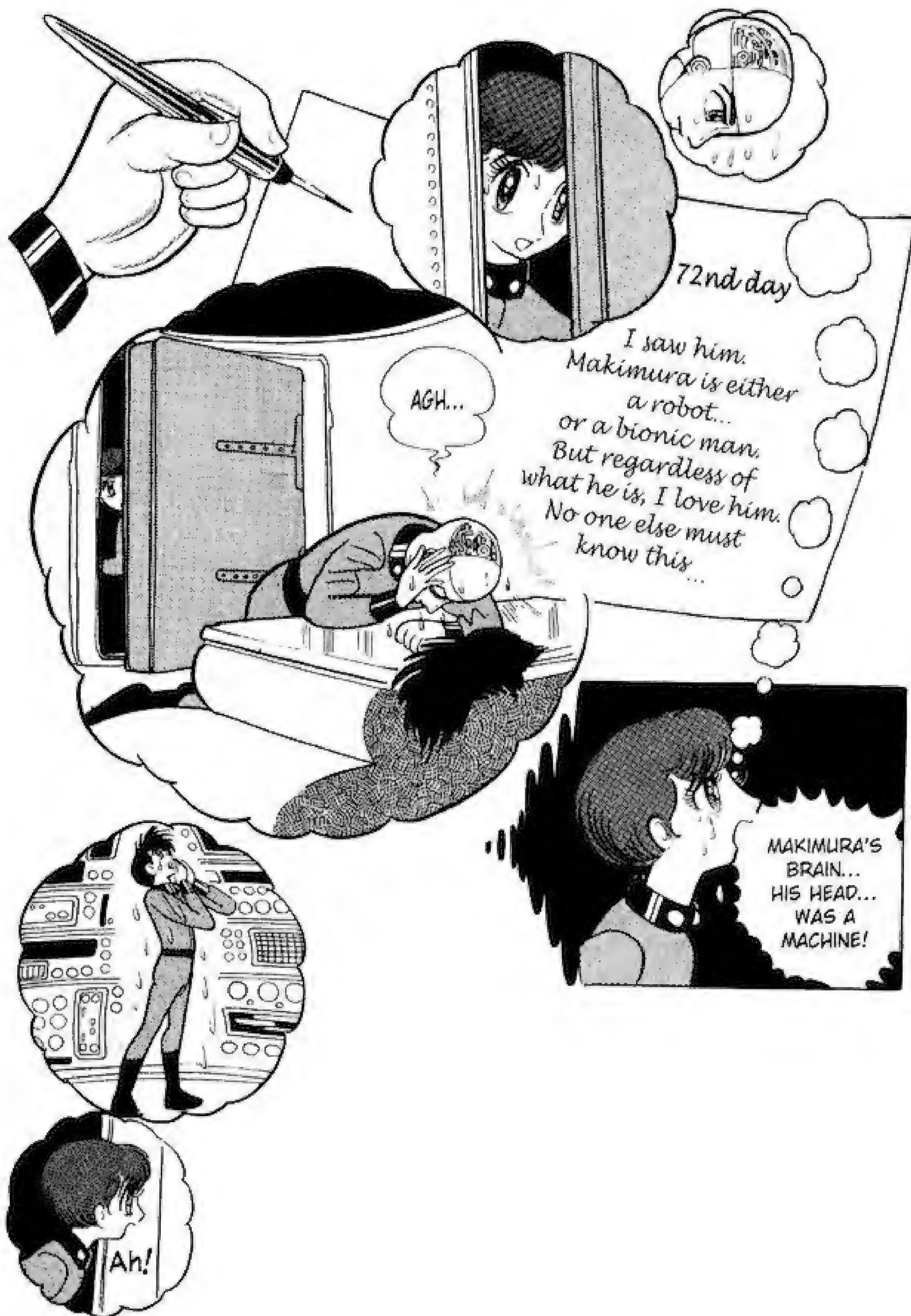
BUT...
NANA...

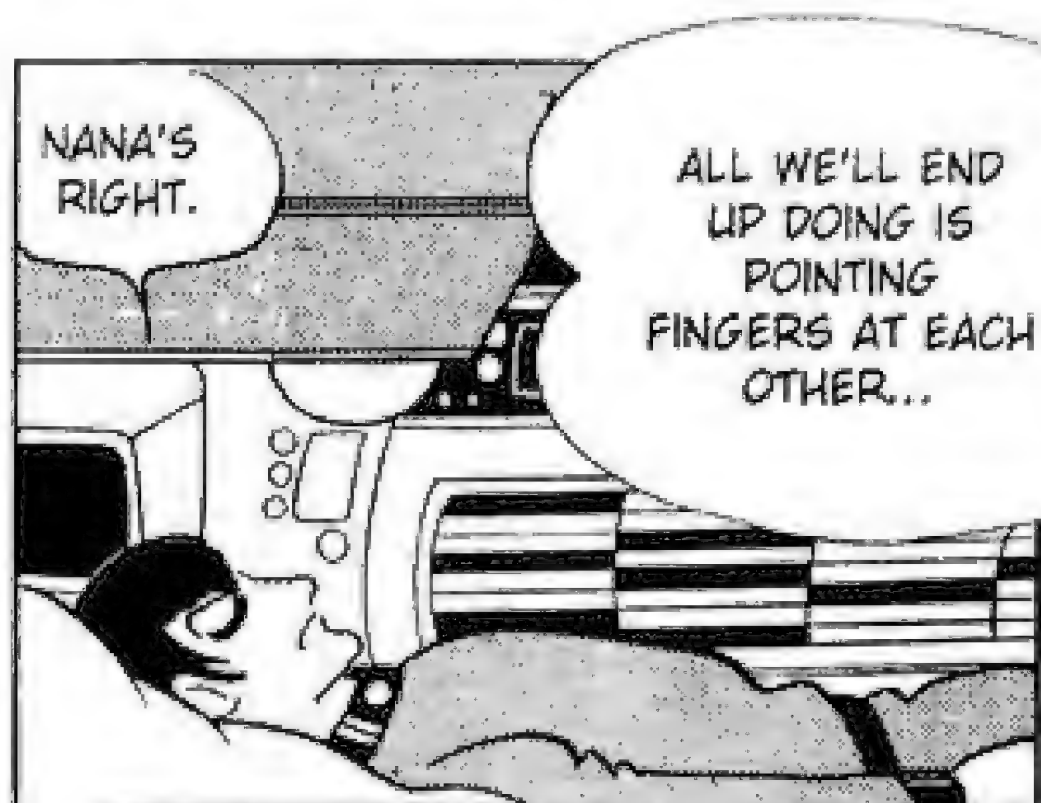
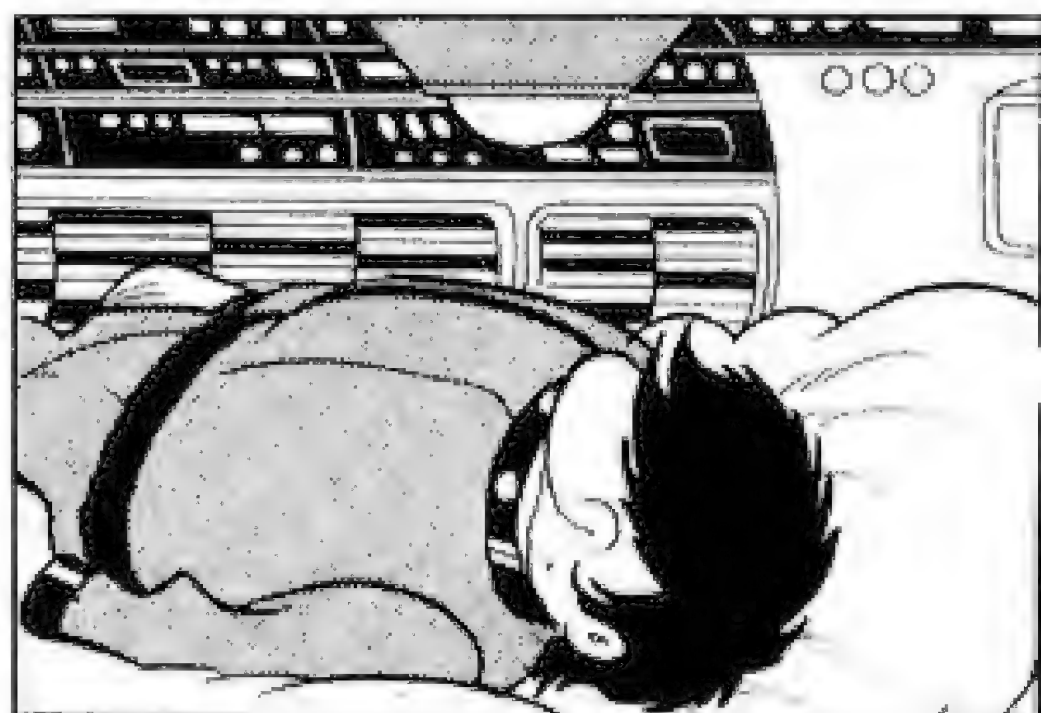
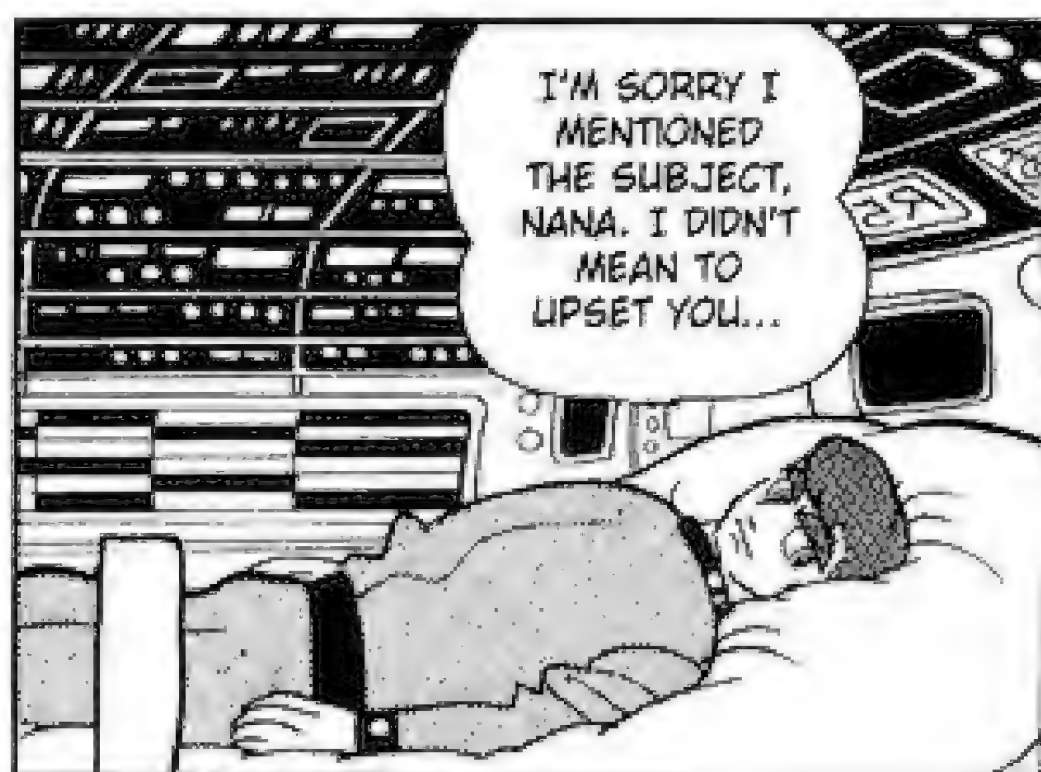


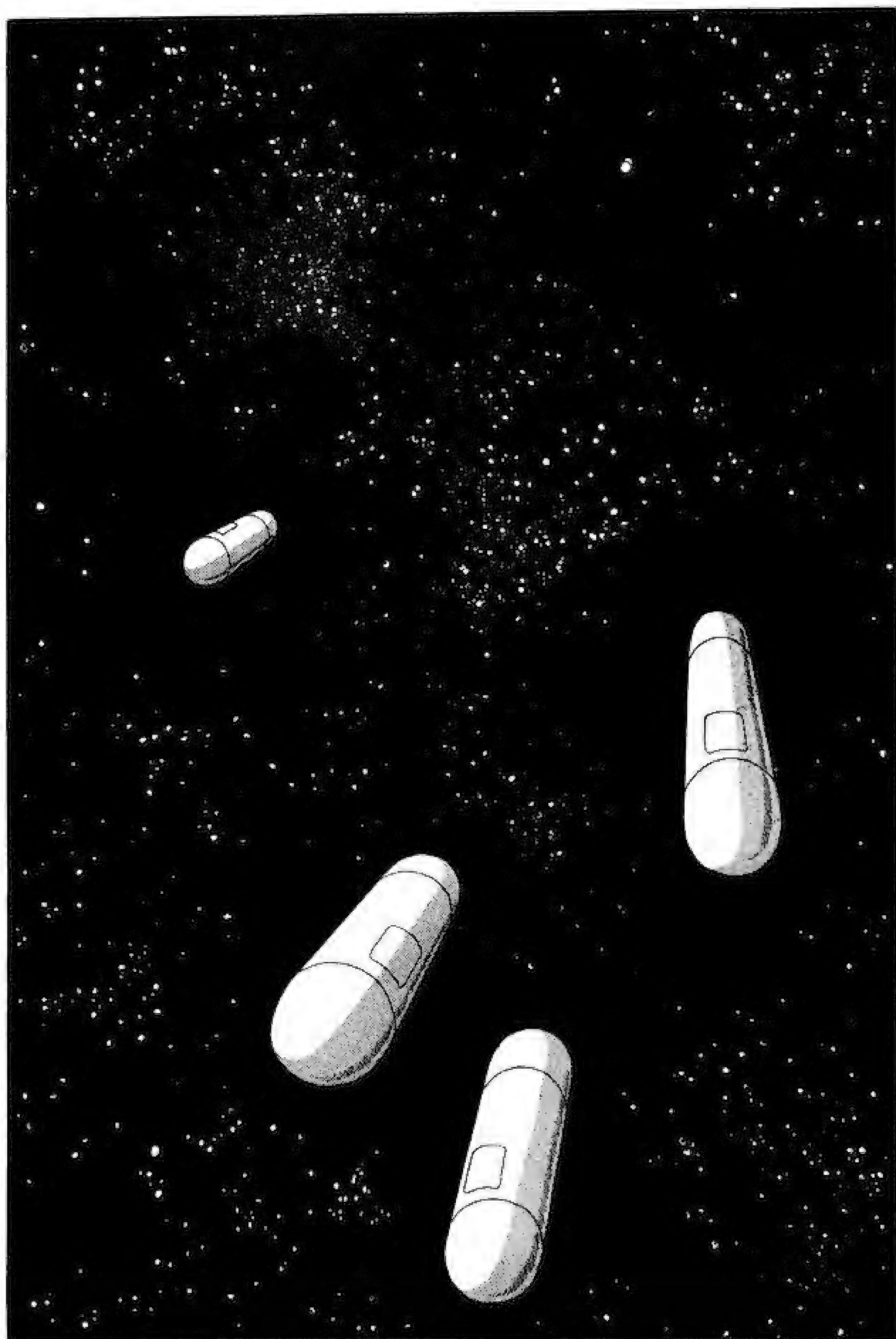
I'M
SORRY...
I DIDN'T
MEAN TO...

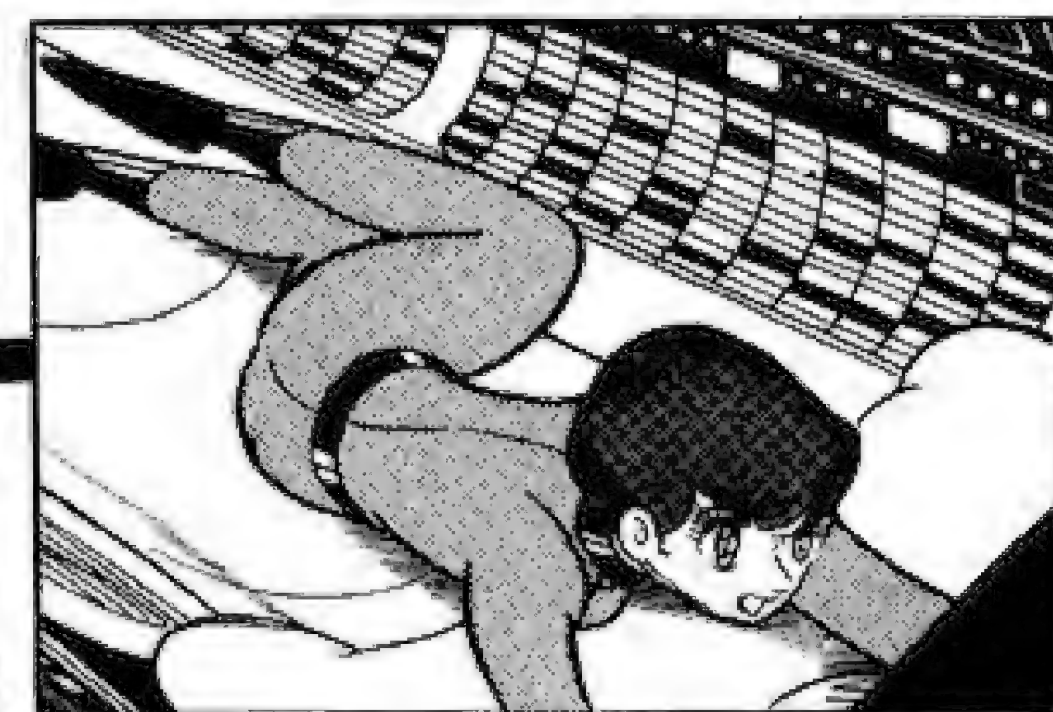
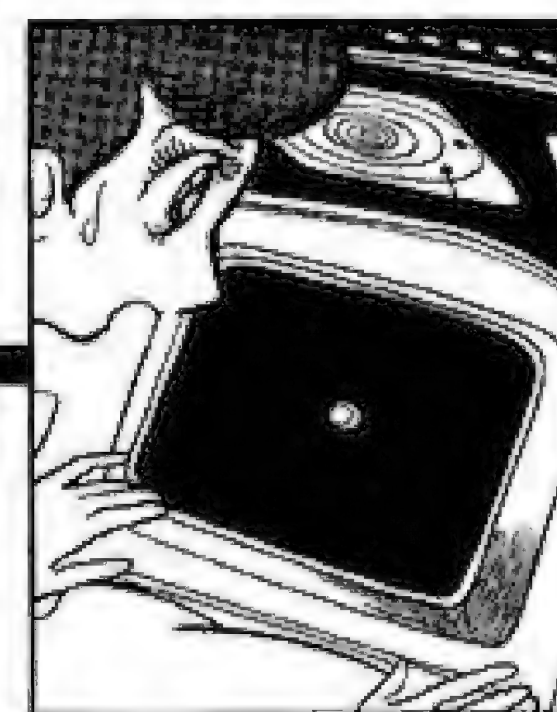
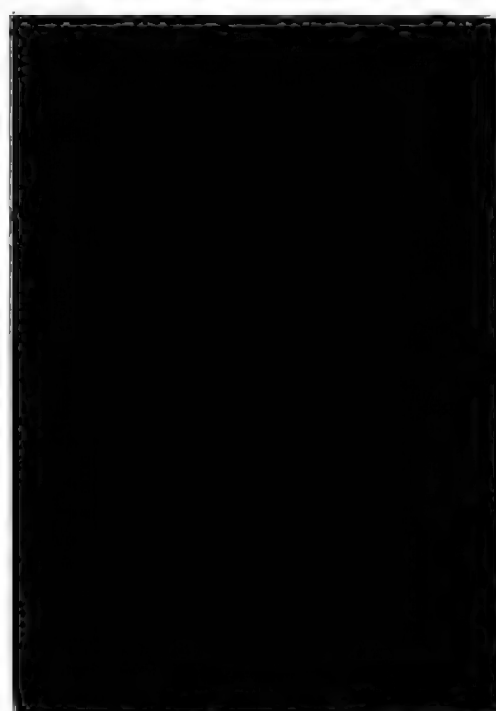
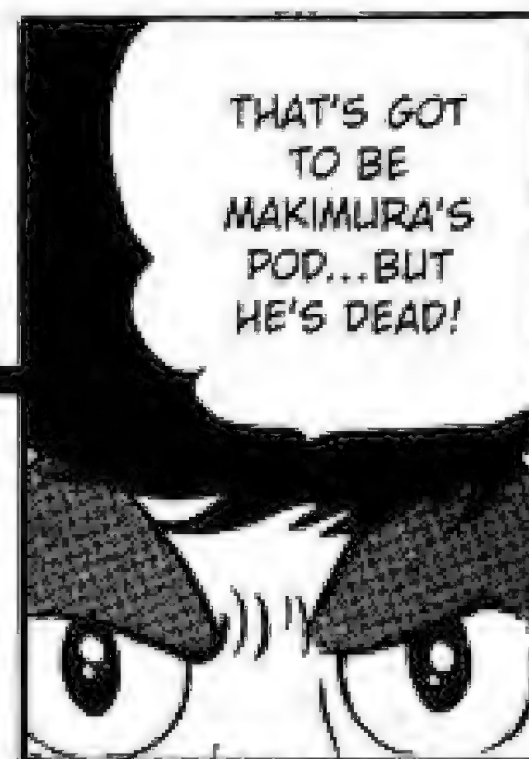
NO...
IT'S
ALL
RIGHT...

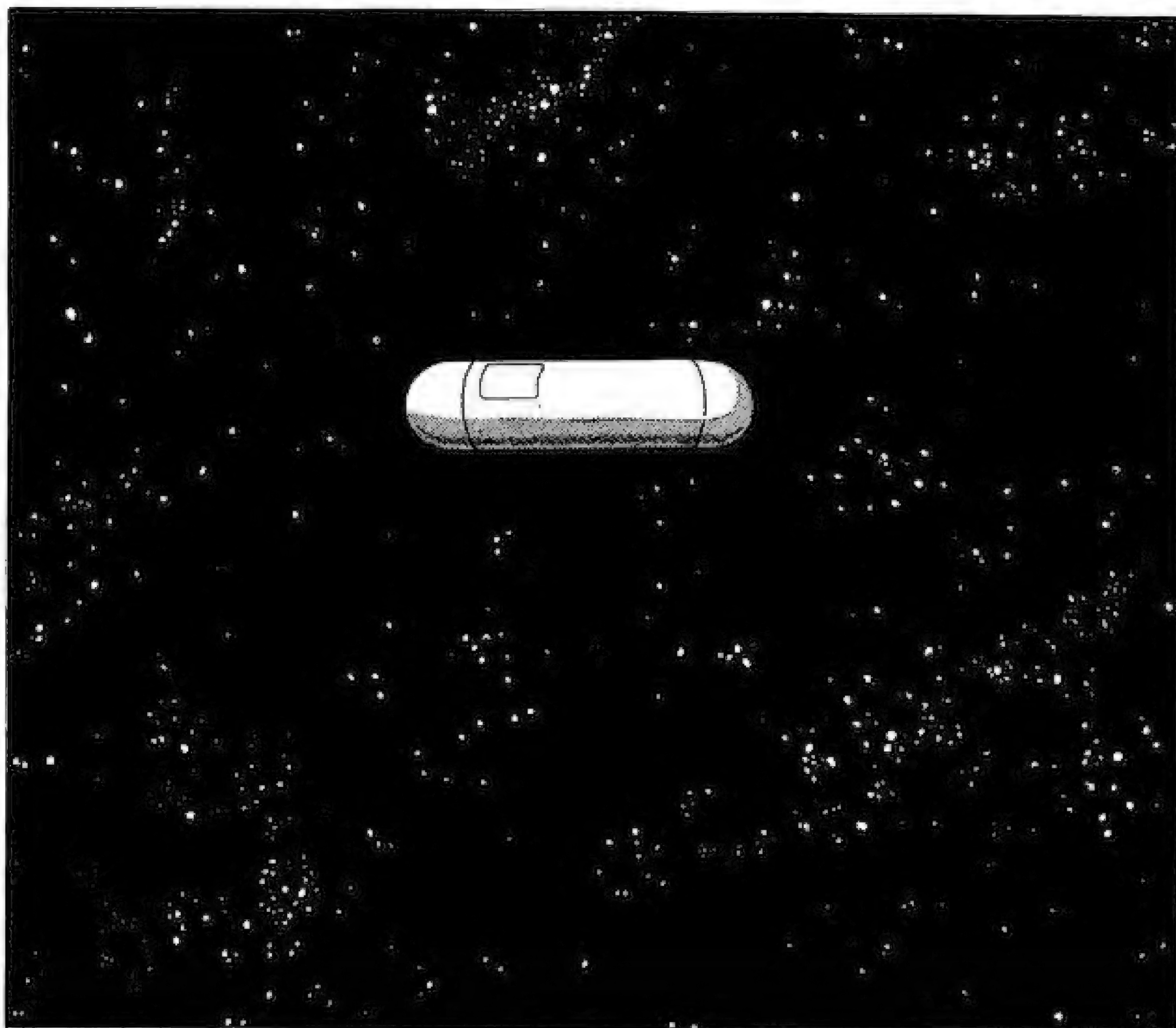
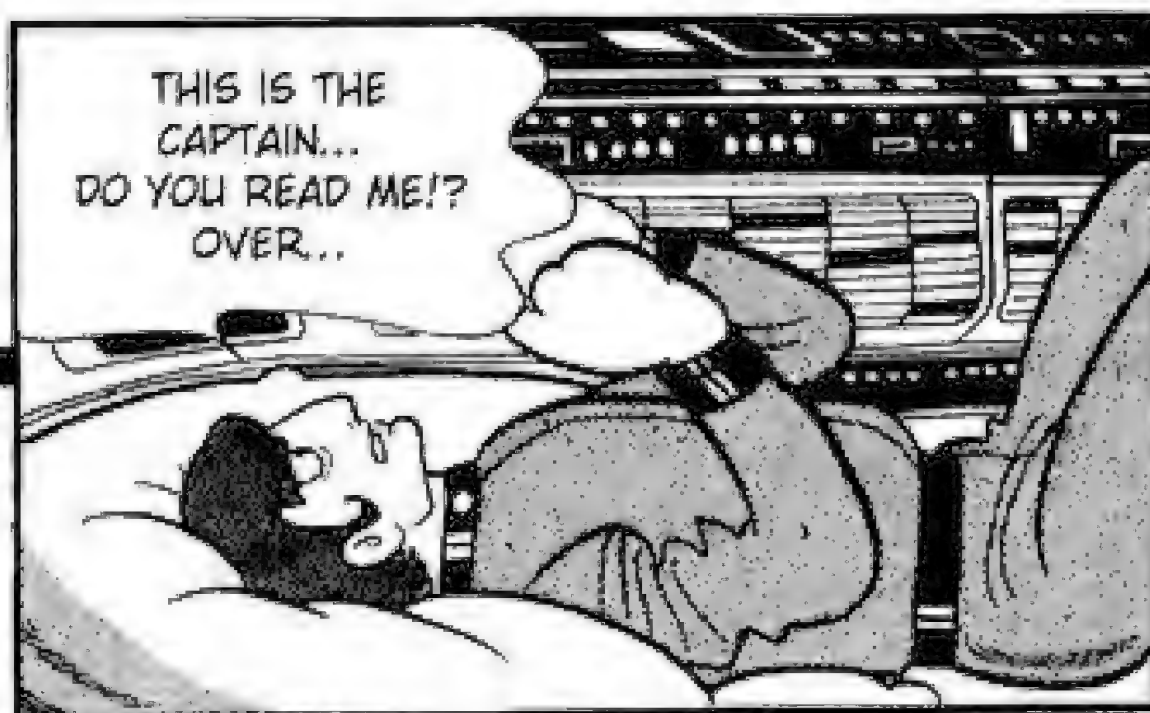




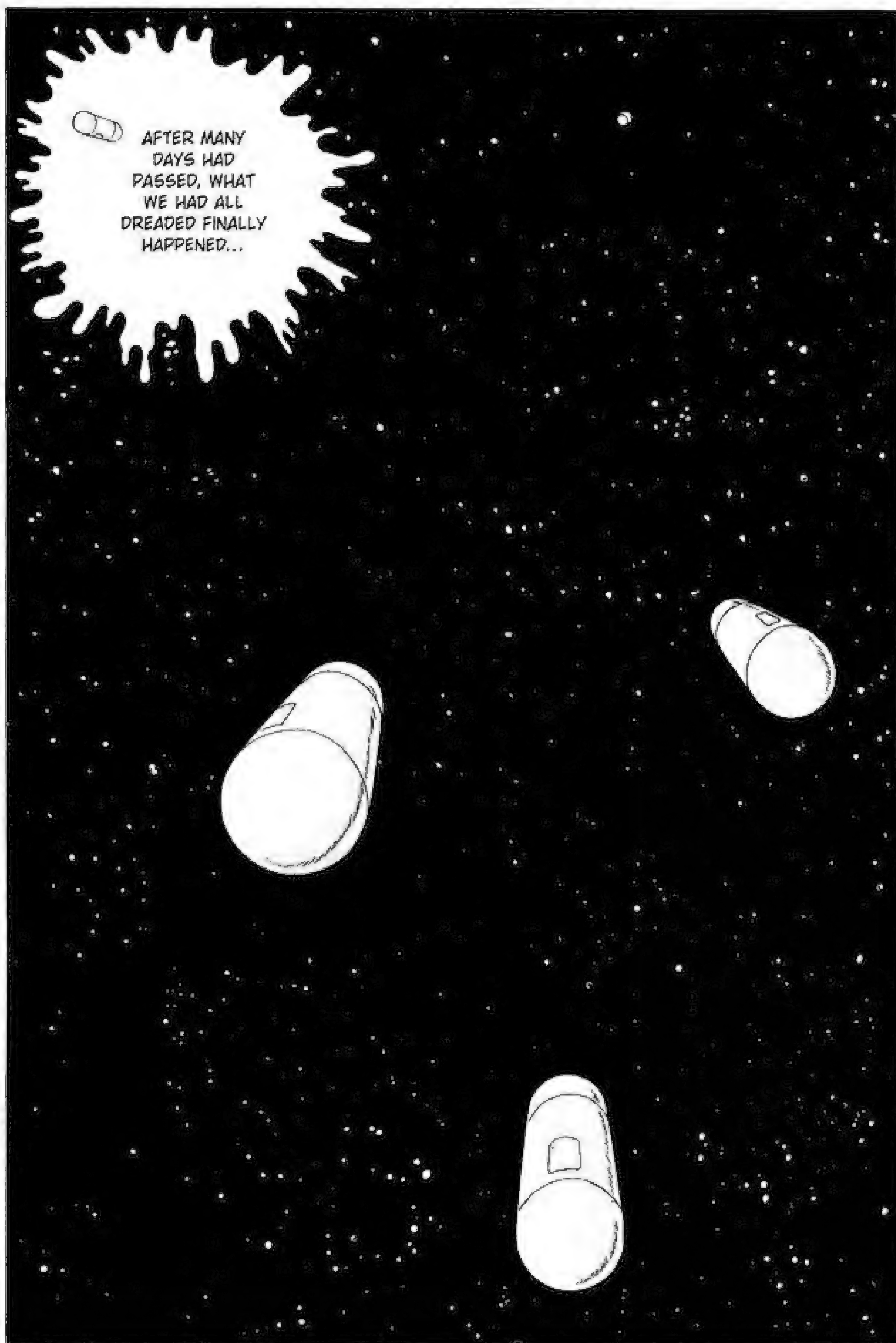




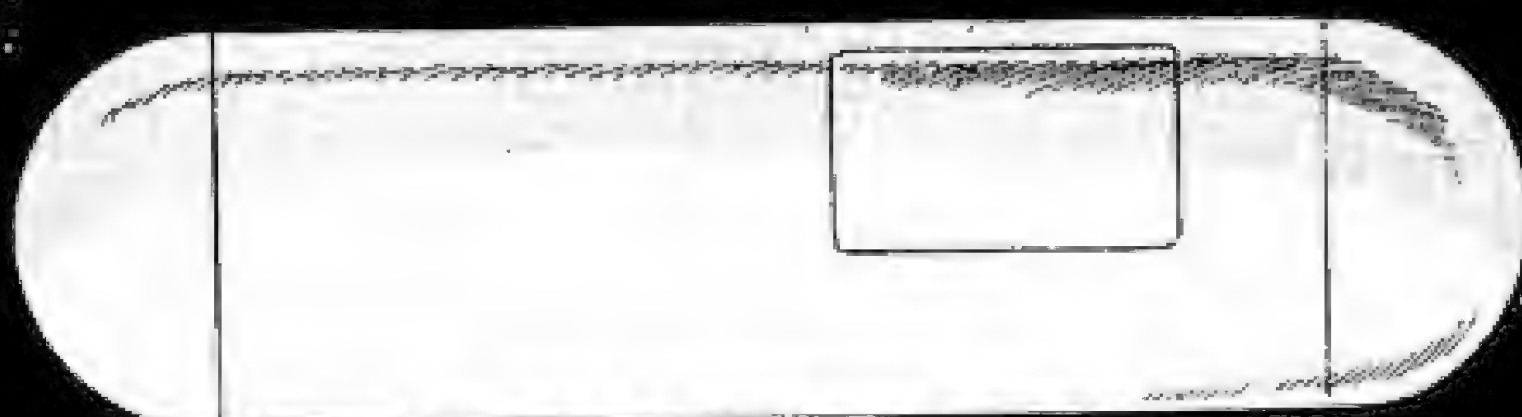


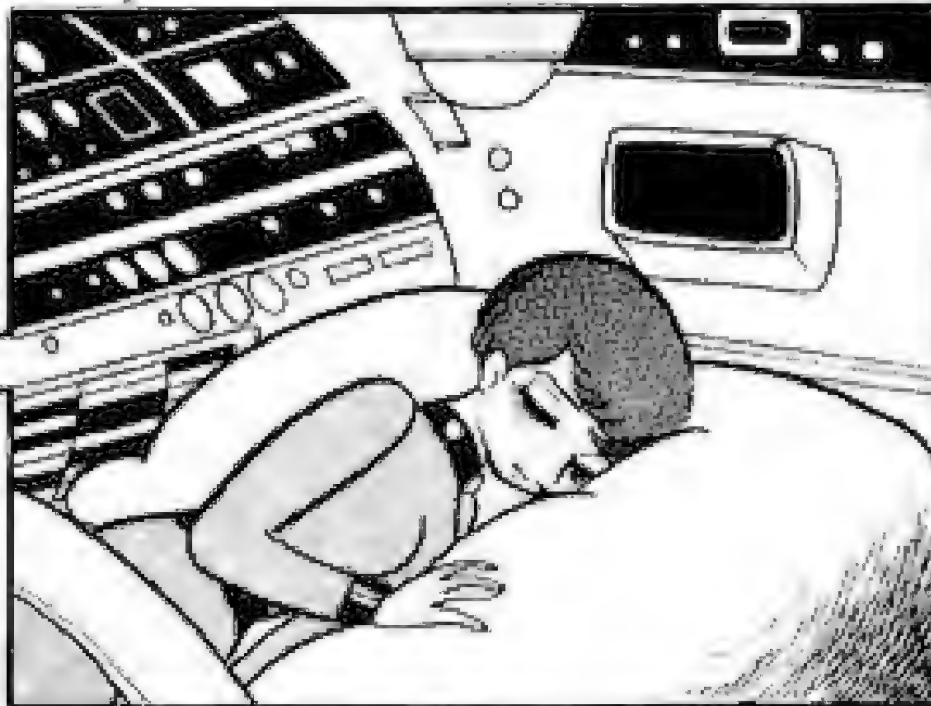
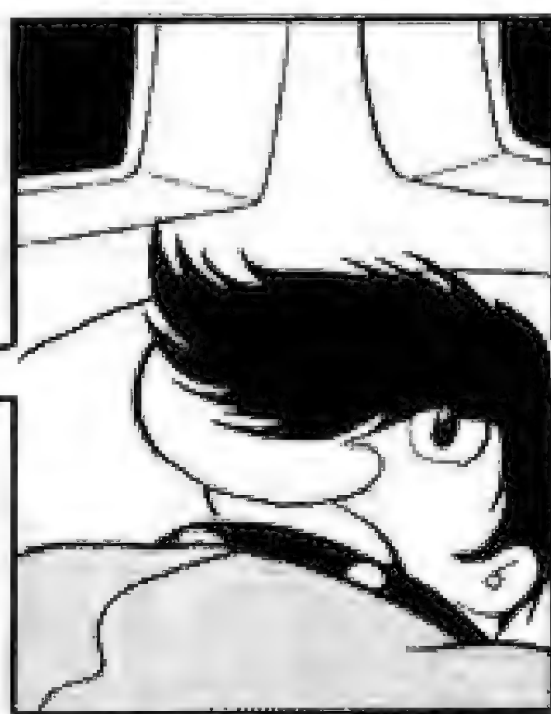
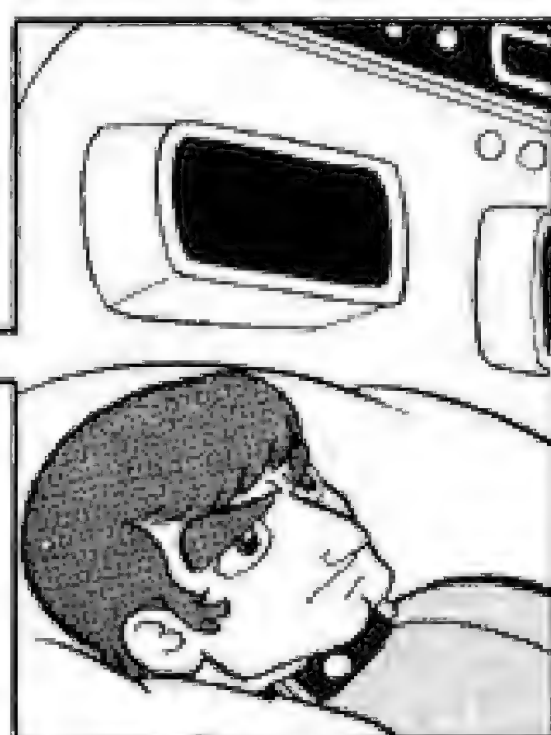


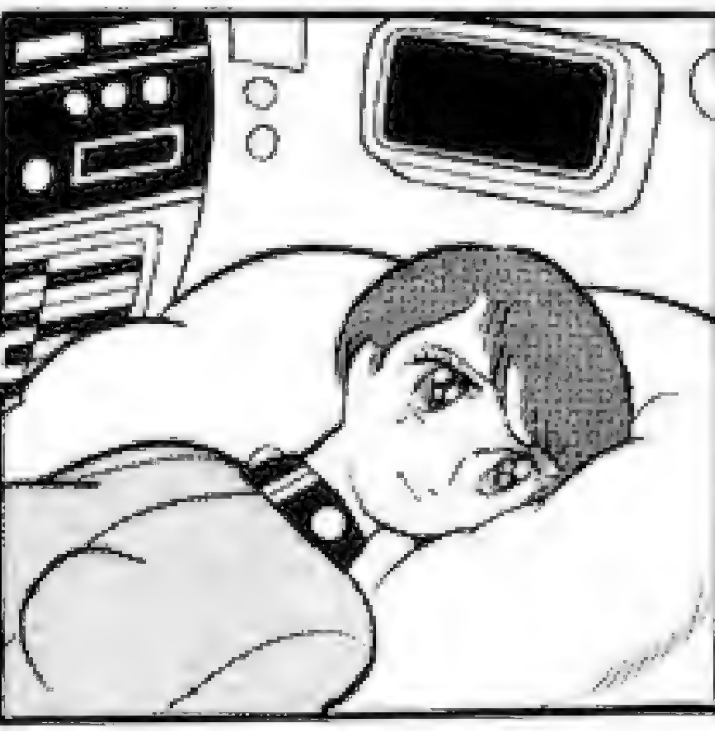
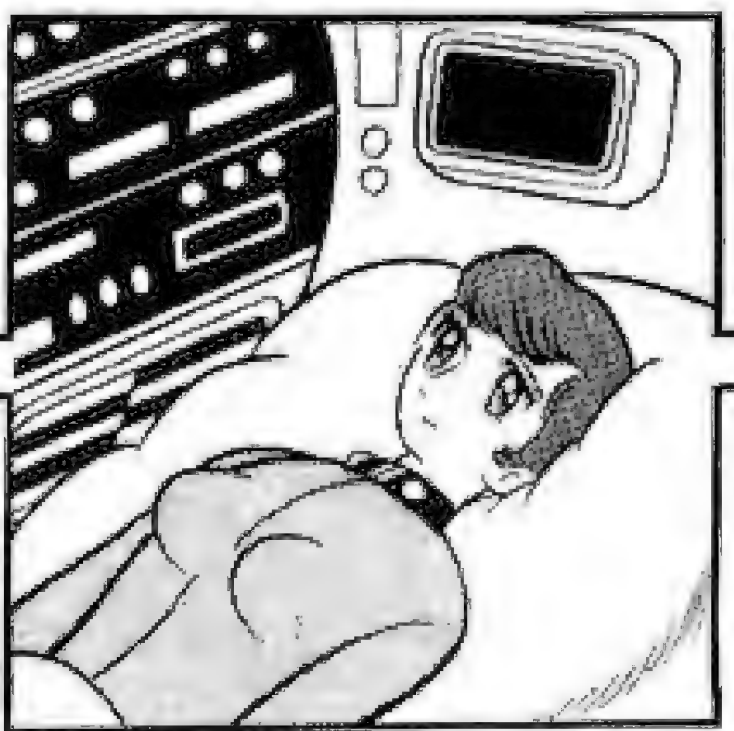
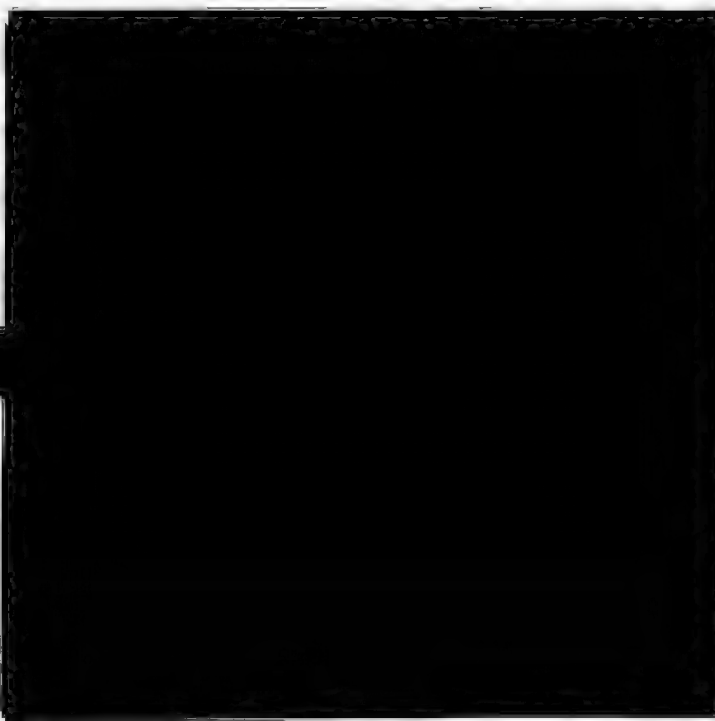
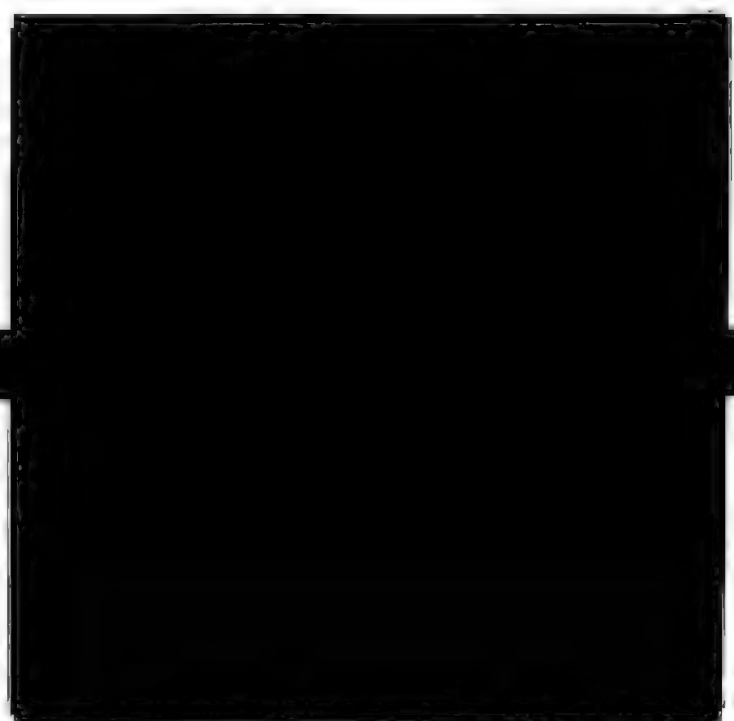
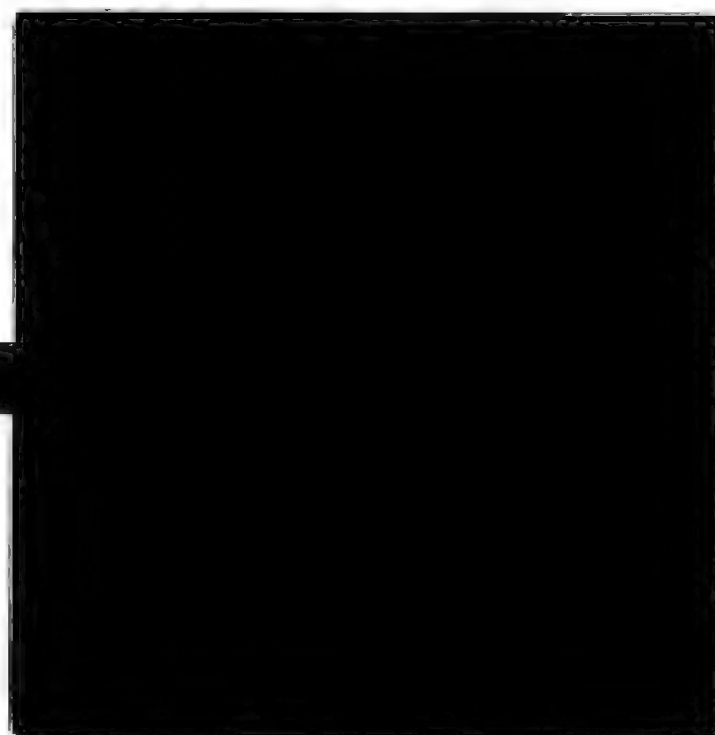
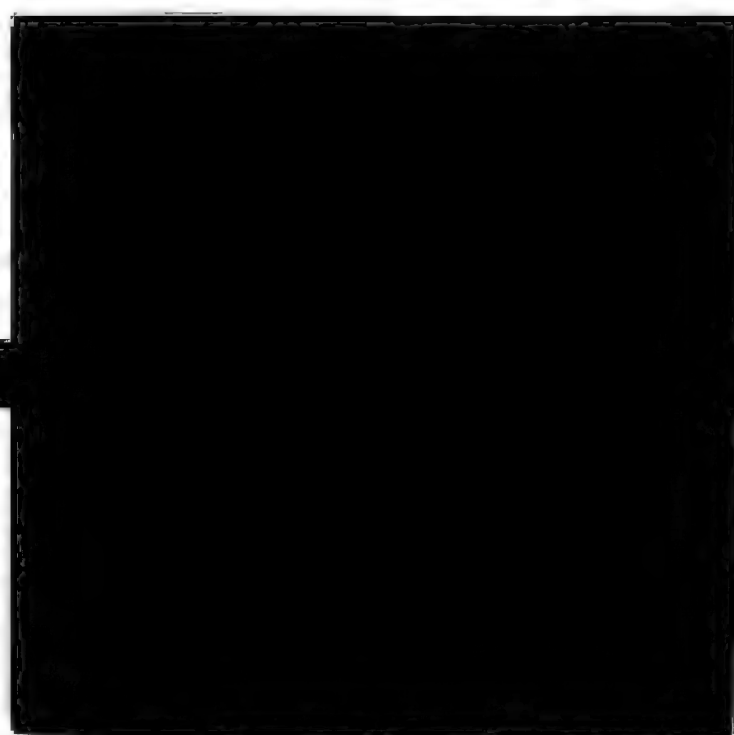


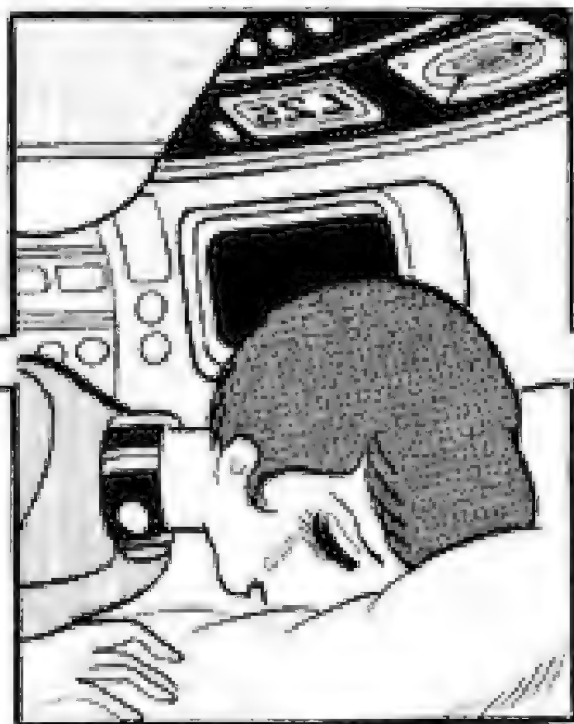
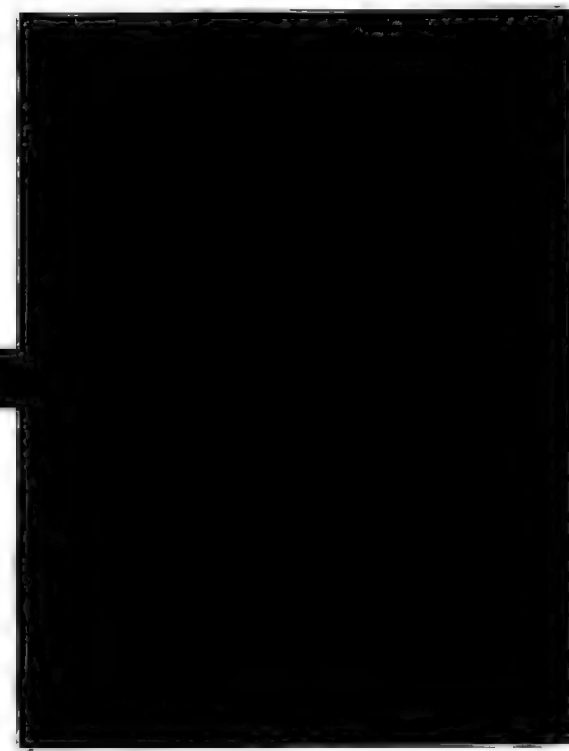
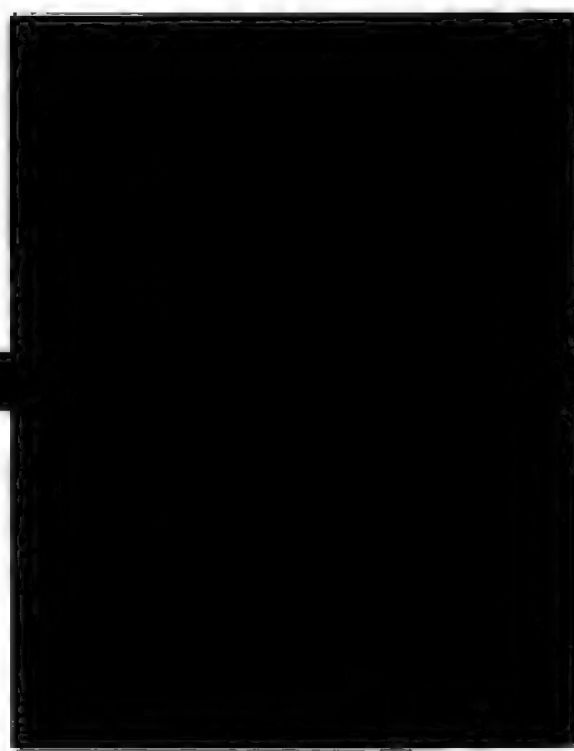
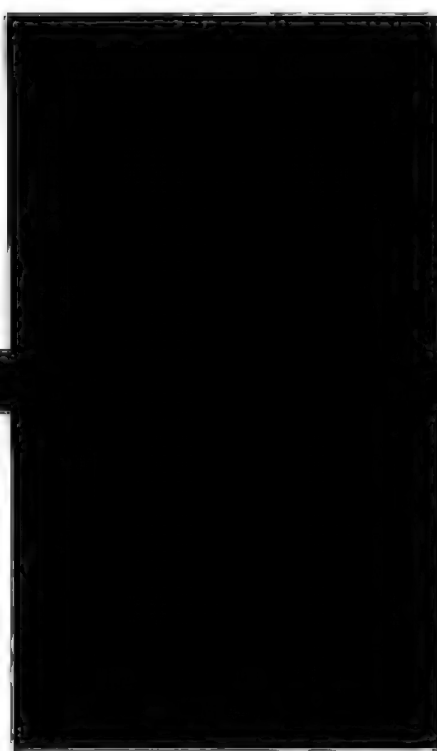
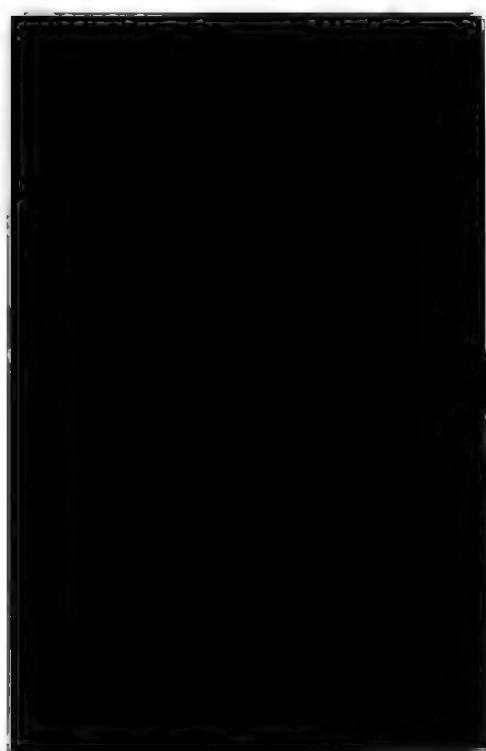


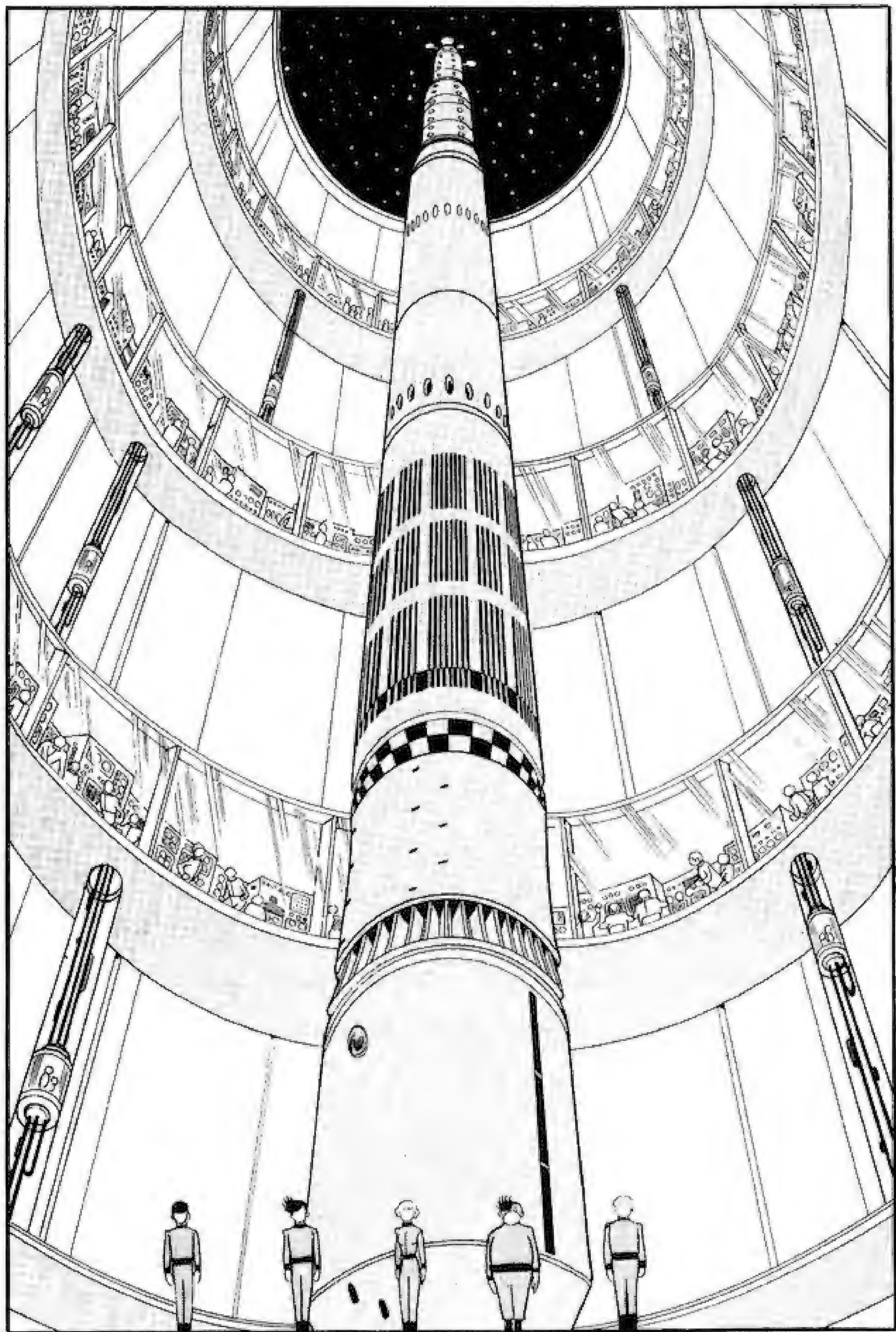
KIZAKI'S POD
BEGAN TO
DEVIATE FROM
OUR COURSE
AND DRIFT
AWAY...
WE KNEW WE
WOULD SOON
LOSE SIGHT
OF HIM FOR
EVER...





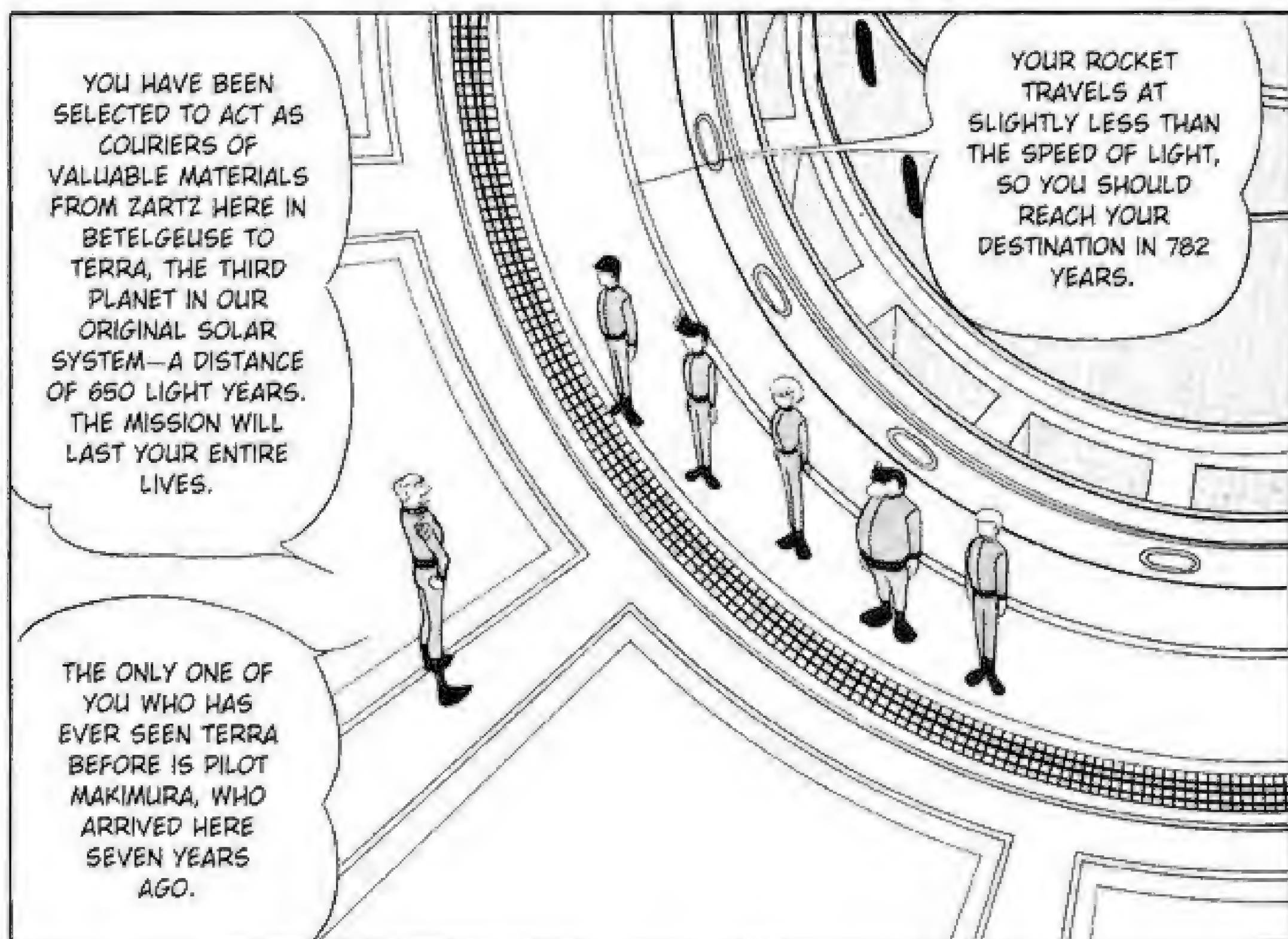








YOU WERE
AS PRETTY
AS A
PRINCESS
IN A FAIRY
TALE...



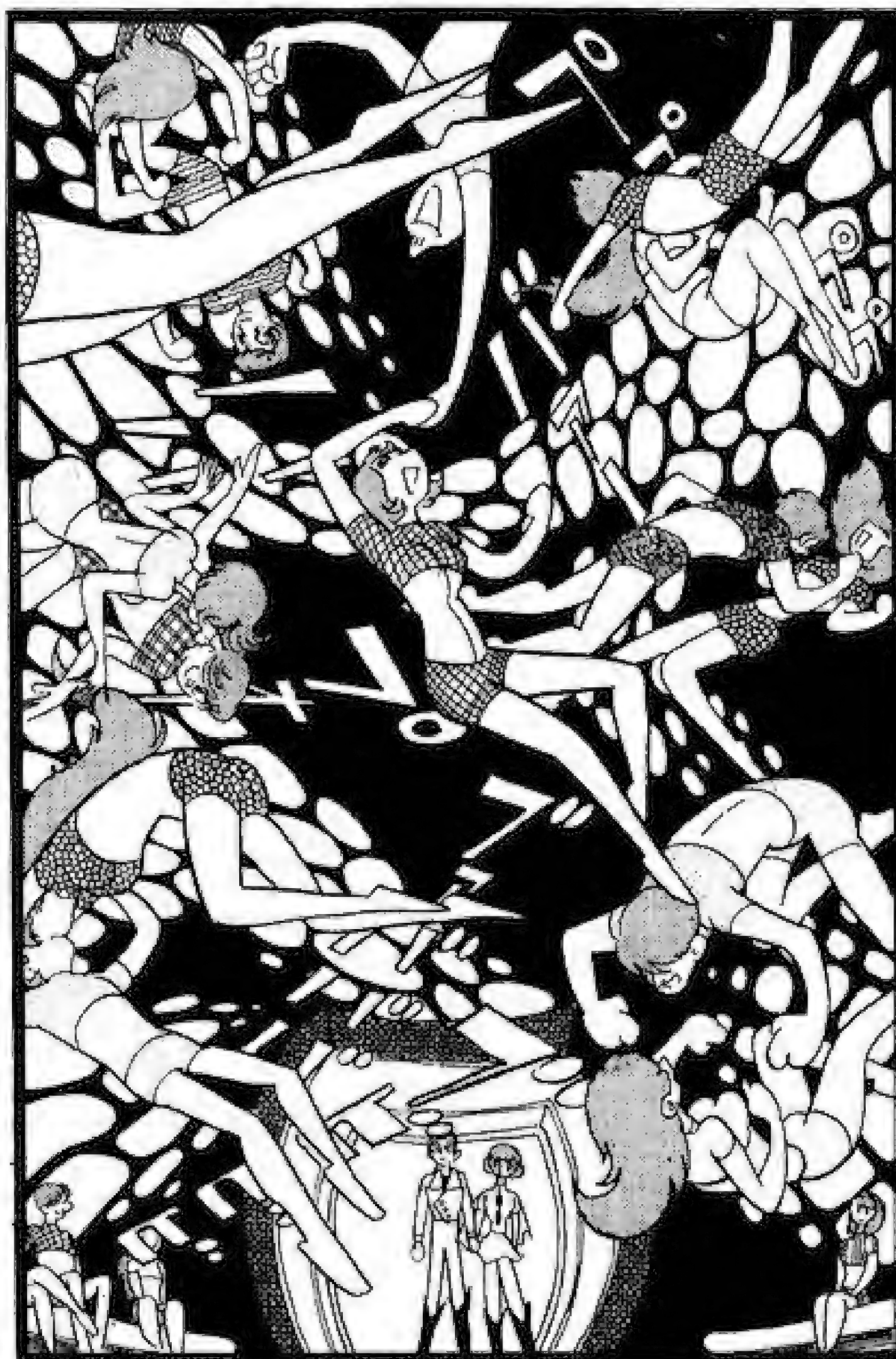
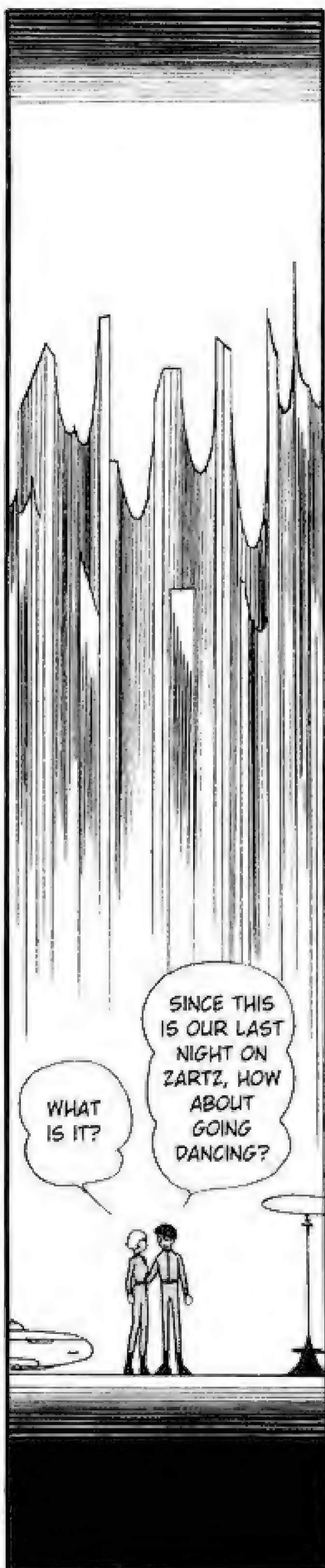
YOU HAVE BEEN
SELECTED TO ACT AS
COURIERS OF
VALUABLE MATERIALS
FROM ZARTZ HERE IN
BETELGEUSE TO
TERRA, THE THIRD
PLANET IN OUR
ORIGINAL SOLAR
SYSTEM—A DISTANCE
OF 650 LIGHT YEARS.
THE MISSION WILL
LAST YOUR ENTIRE
LIVES.

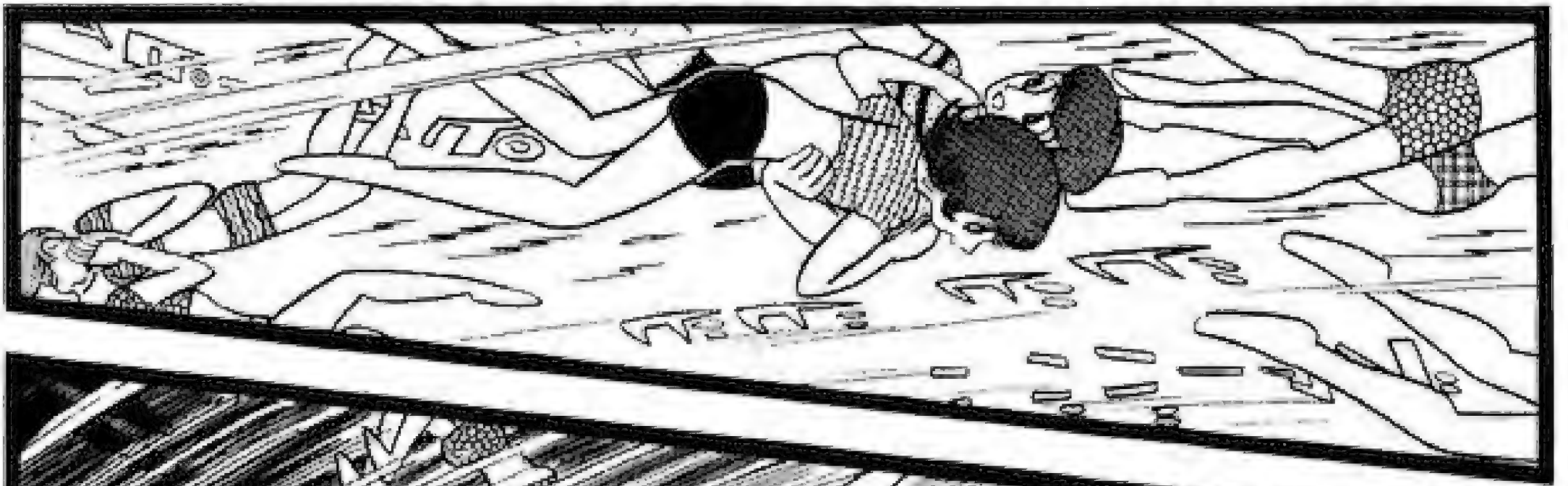
YOUR ROCKET
TRAVELS AT
SLIGHTLY LESS THAN
THE SPEED OF LIGHT,
SO YOU SHOULD
REACH YOUR
DESTINATION IN 782
YEARS.

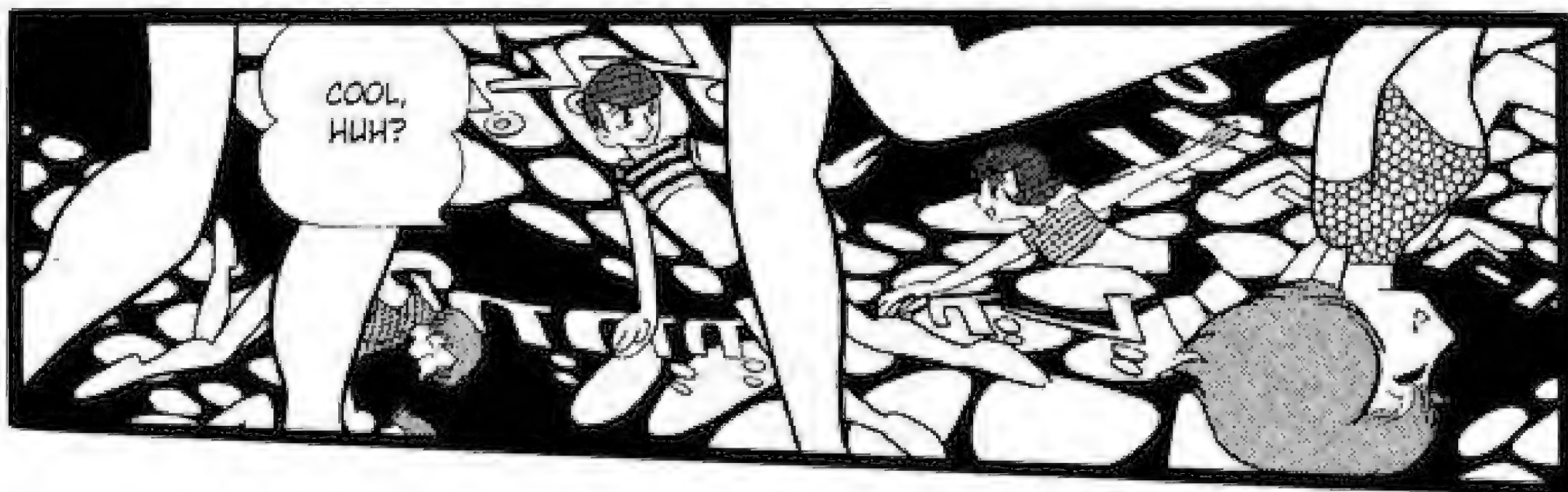
THE ONLY ONE OF
YOU WHO HAS
EVER SEEN TERRA
BEFORE IS PILOT
MAKIMURA, WHO
ARRIVED HERE
SEVEN YEARS
AGO.



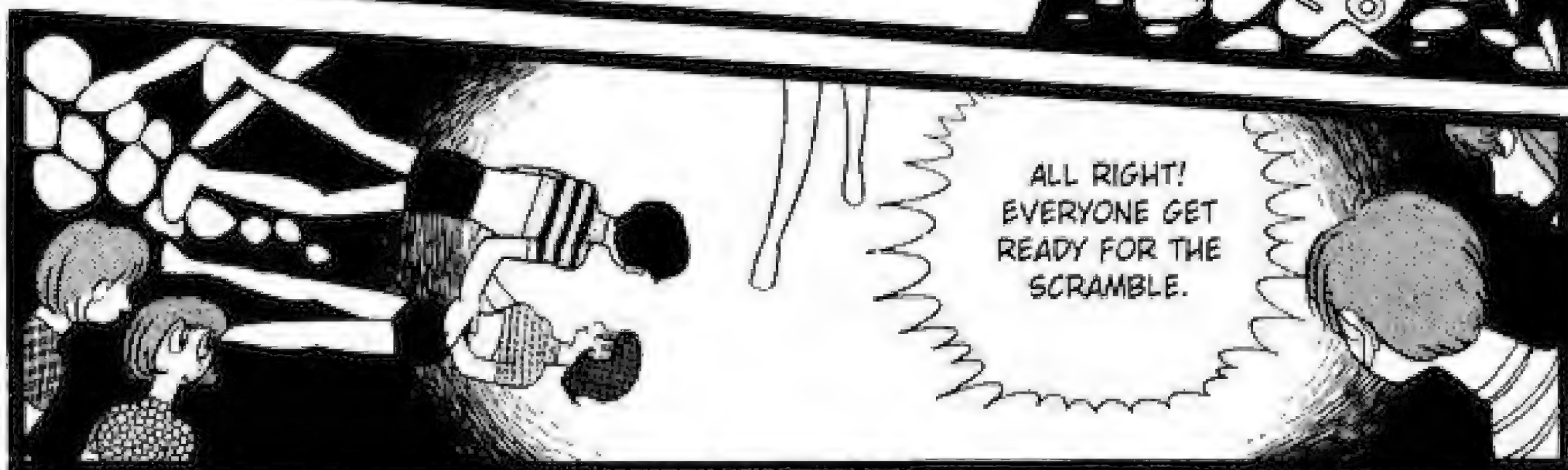
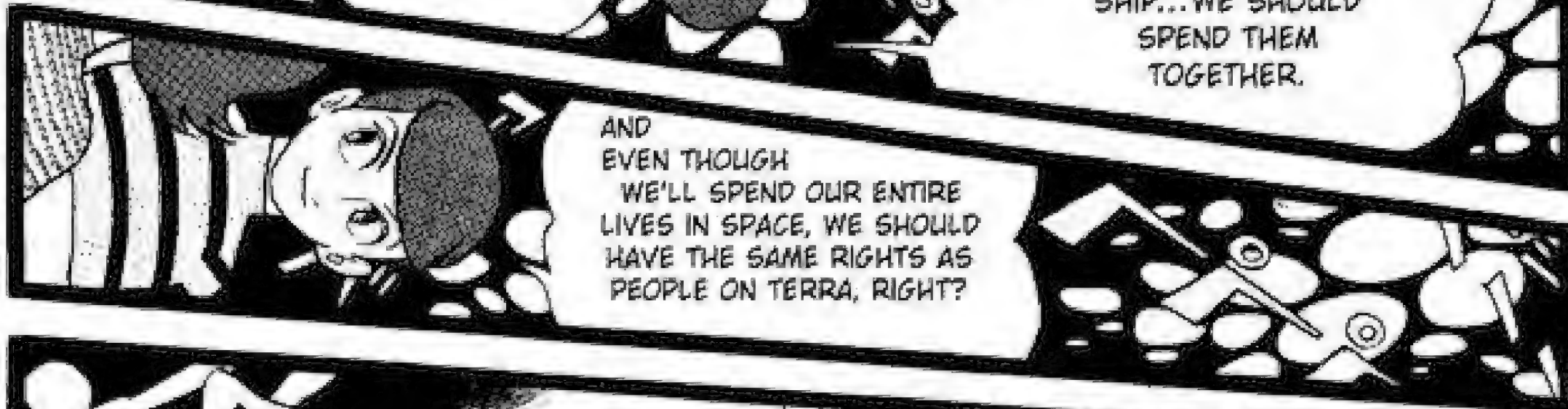
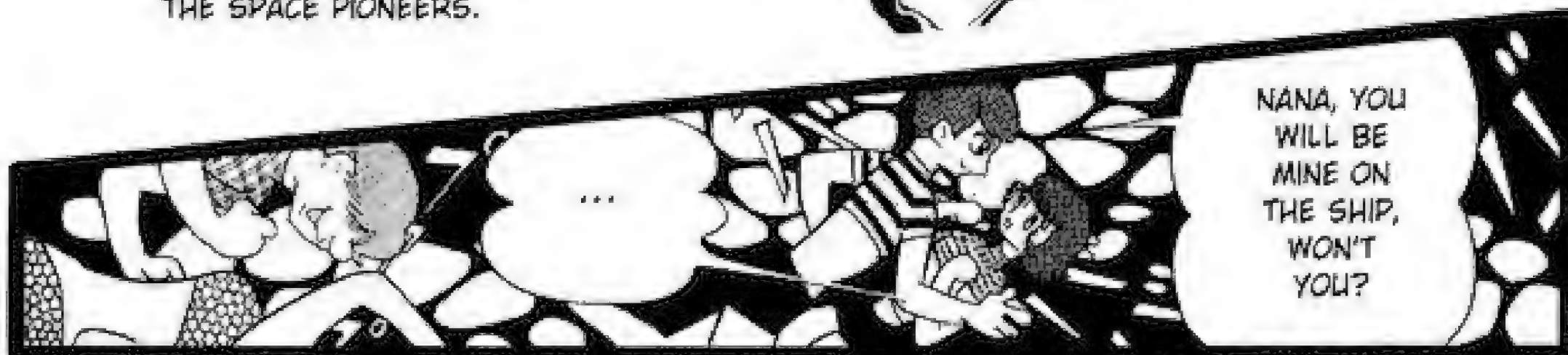
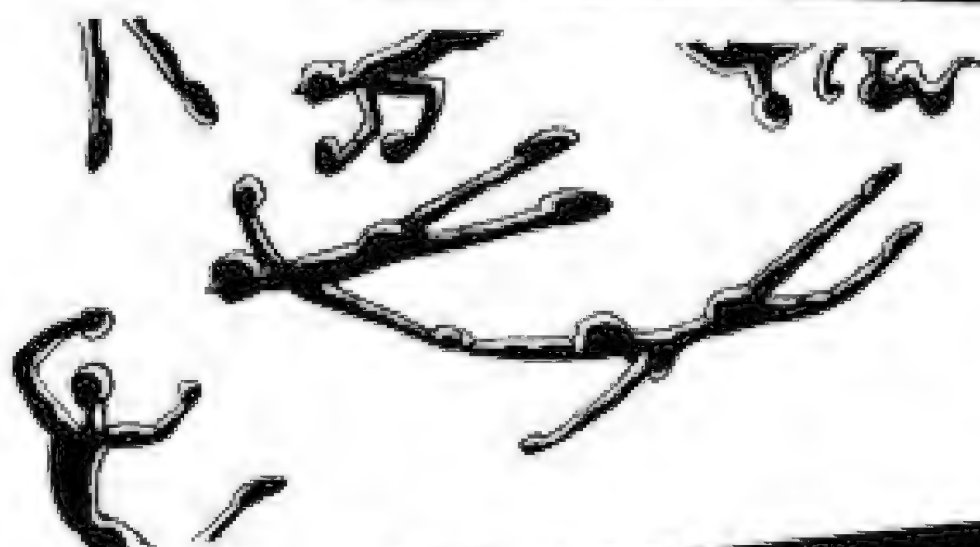








YOUNG COUPLES DANCED IN MIDAIR LIKE CLOUDS OF IRIDESCENT BUTTERFLIES. THE ENTIRE DANCE HALL WAS KEPT IN A GRAVITY-FREE STATE—THE DANCE WAS CALLED "SCRAMBLE"—A UNIQUE FORM OF RECREATION DEVELOPED BY THE SPACE PIONEERS.



SCRAMBLE WAS A ZARTIZIAN DANCE FORM WHICH EMPLOYED ARTIFICIAL GRAVITY TO "SCRAMBLE" THE PARTICIPANTS AT THE PEAK OF THE DANCE. IT PRODUCED A CONDITION SIMILAR TO INTOXICATION.

OF COURSE... IT WAS A RECREATION ONLY FOR THE STRONG-HEARTED.

SHRIEK!

SCREE

YAAAAAAAA

EEEEEEK

A G A G A G

AAAH...I
FEEL LIKE
I'M IN A
DREAM...

WITH THE
END OF THE
SCRAMBLING,
THE PARTI-
CIPANTS
SLOWLY
FLOATED TO
THE FLOOR
AS THOUGH
MESMER-
IZED...

IT WAS
THEN
THAT
NANA
GOT TO
KNOW
MAKI-
MURA.

YOU'RE
HERE
TOO?

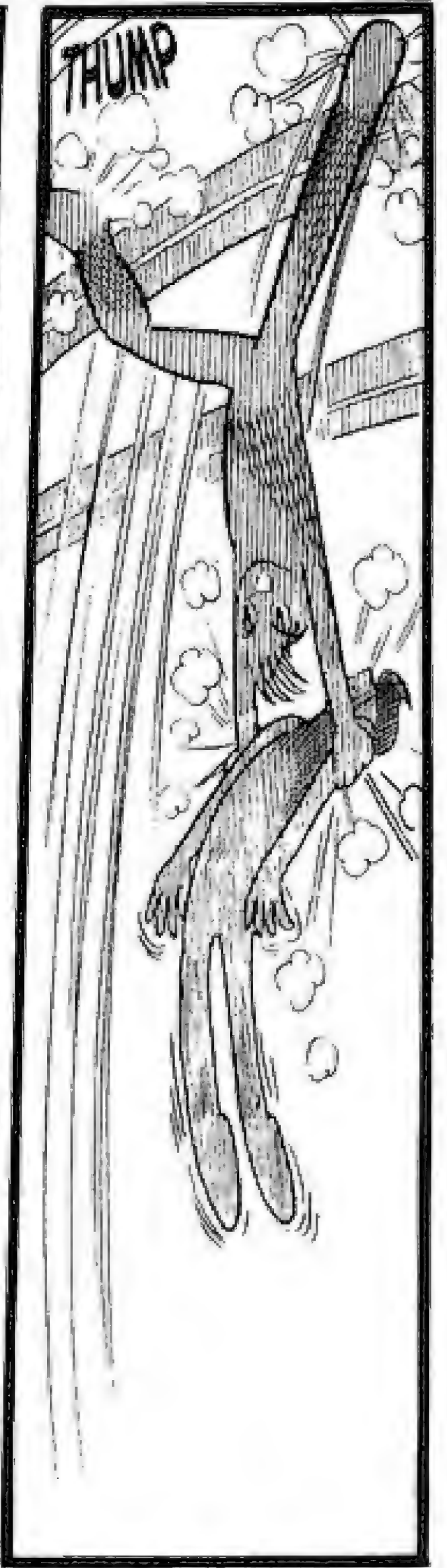
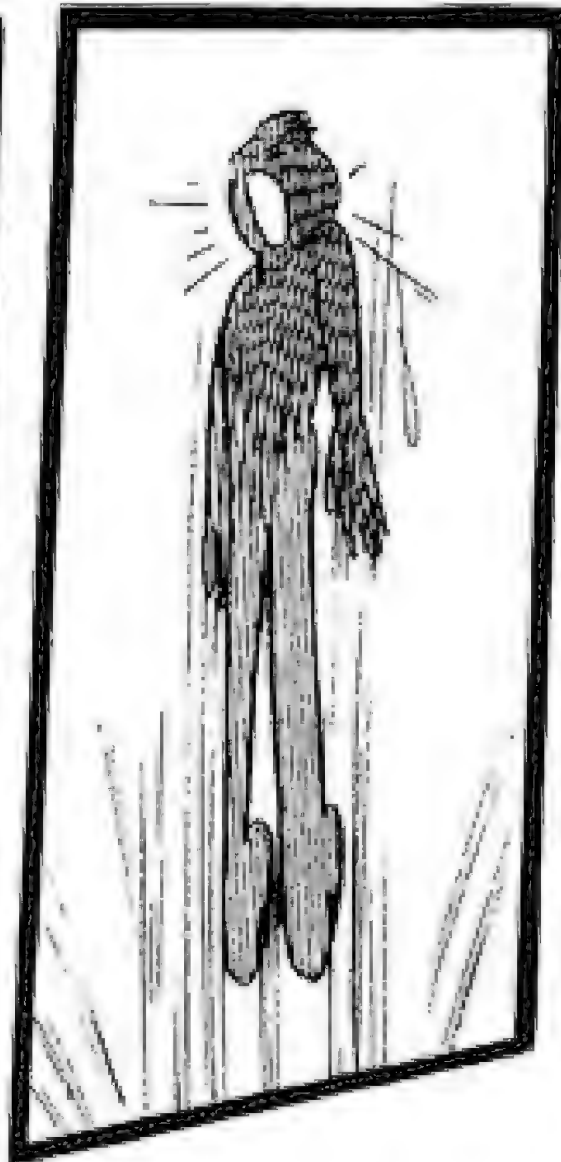
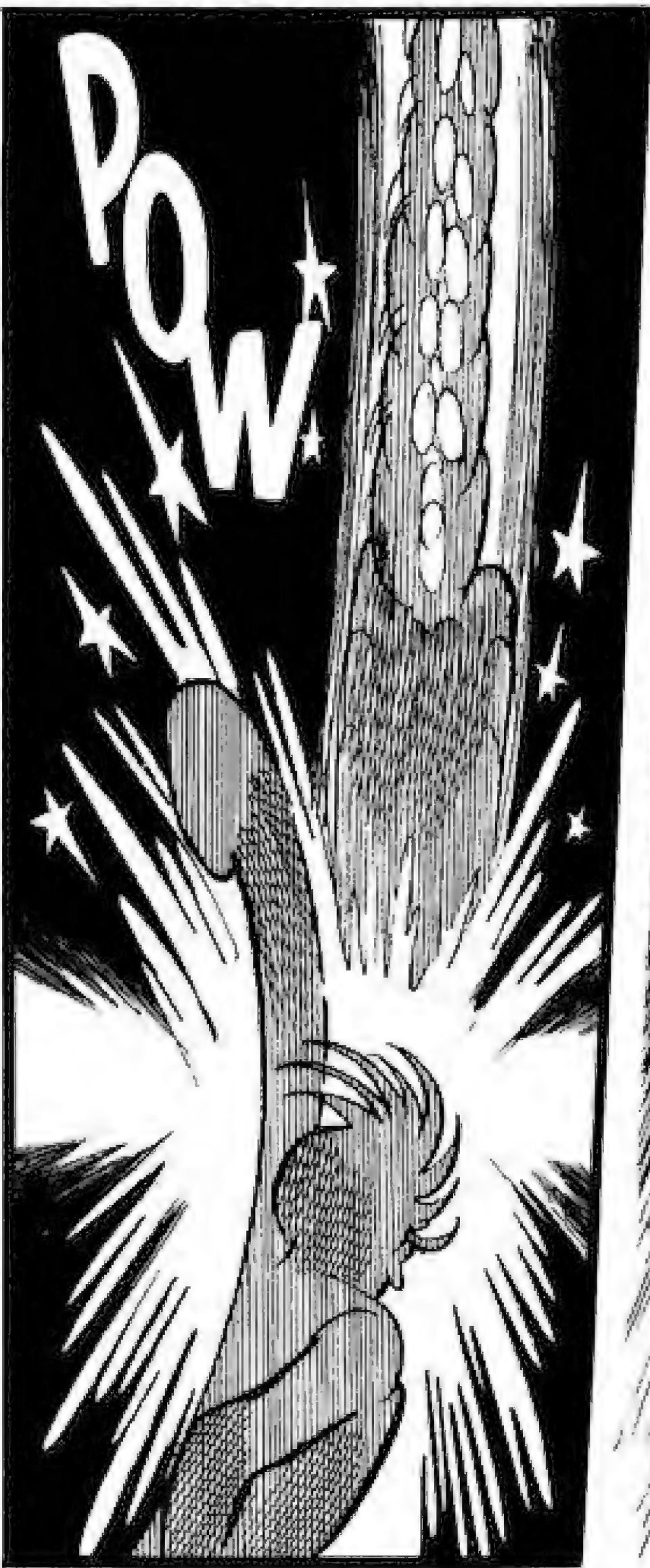
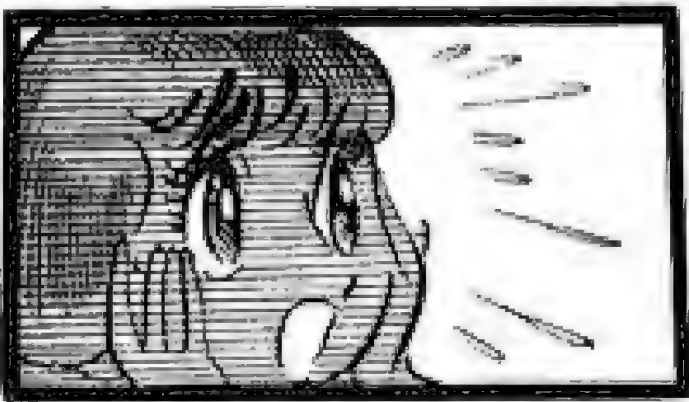
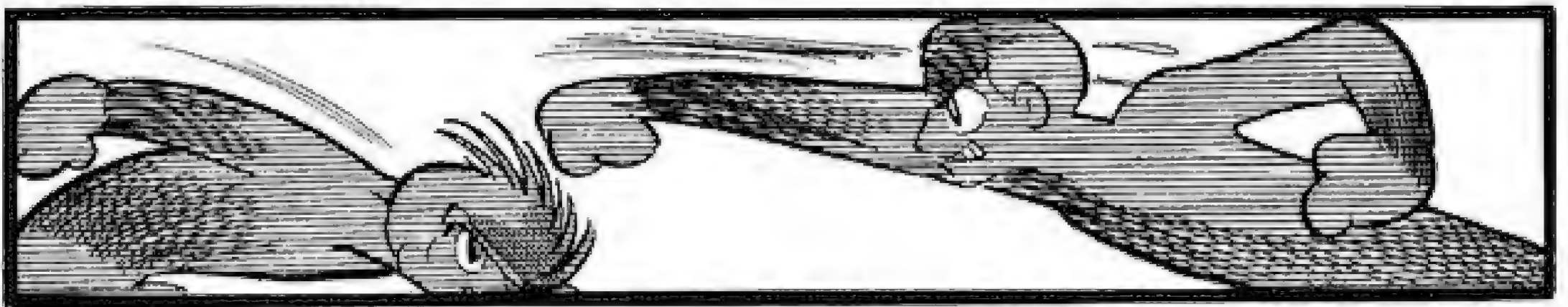
AAH...
MAKIMURA...

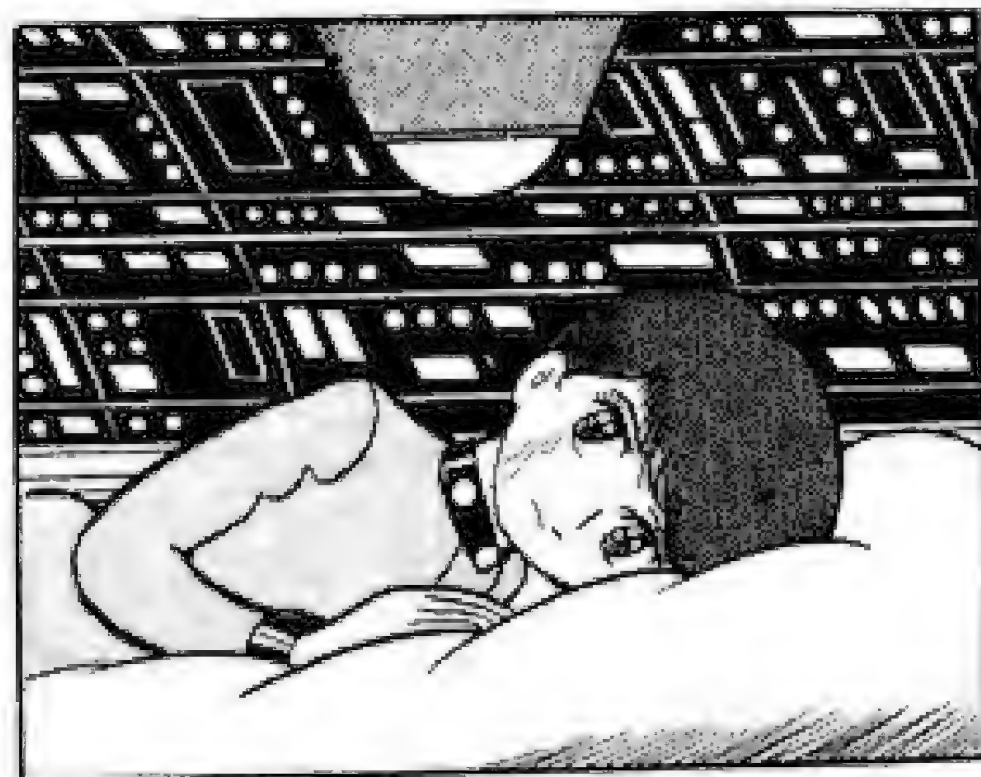
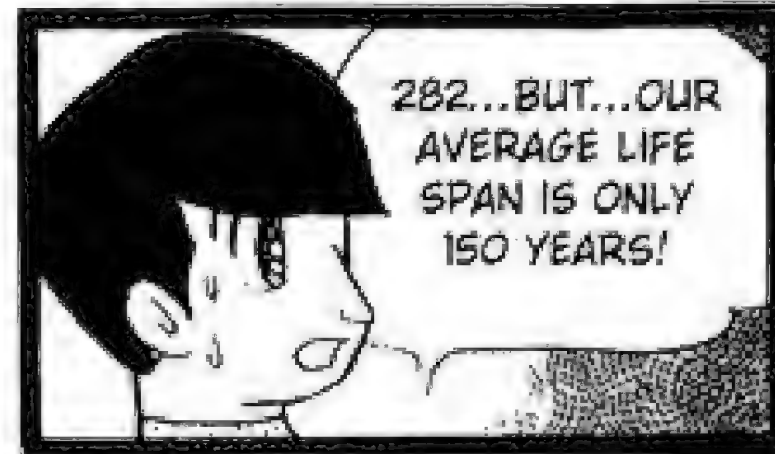
WHEW...
I NEED A
REST...

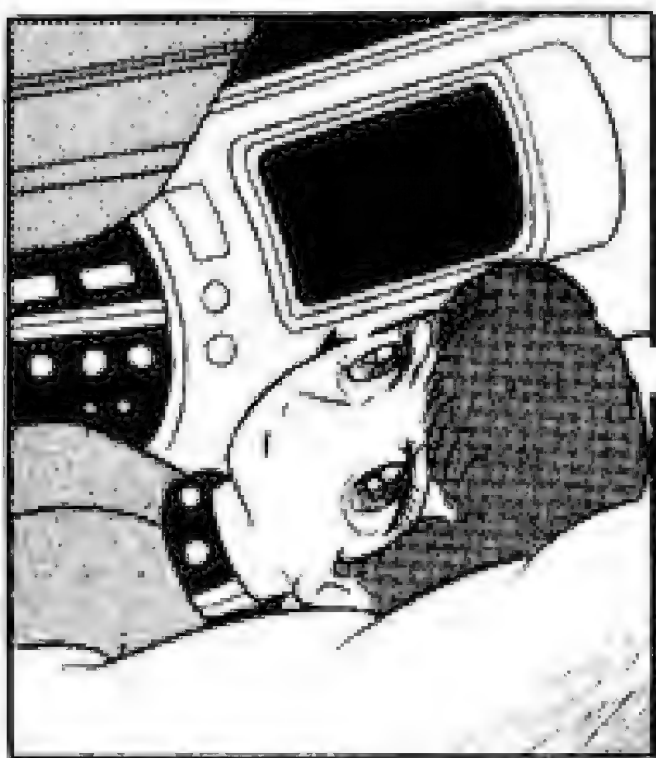
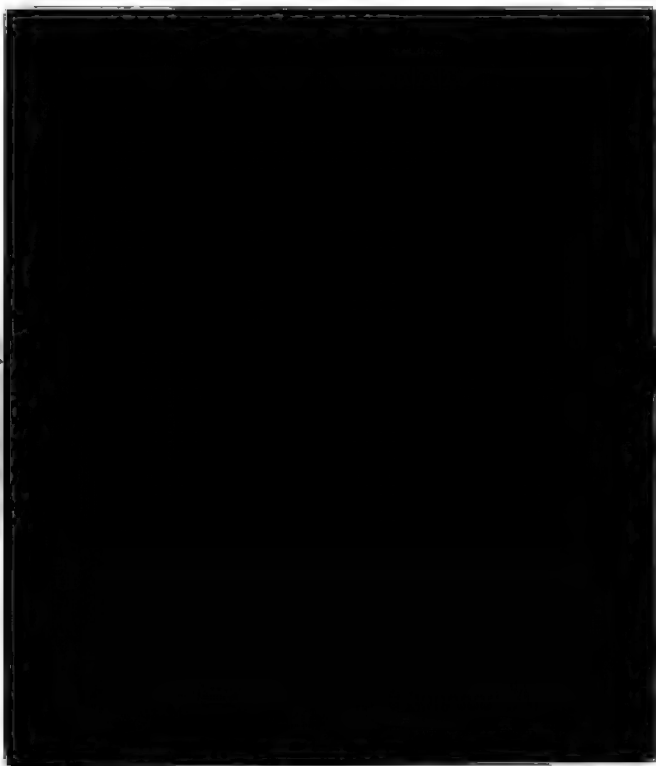
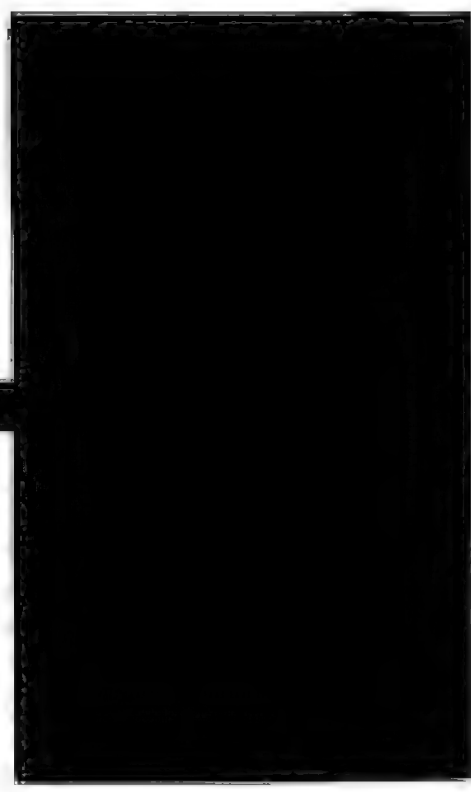
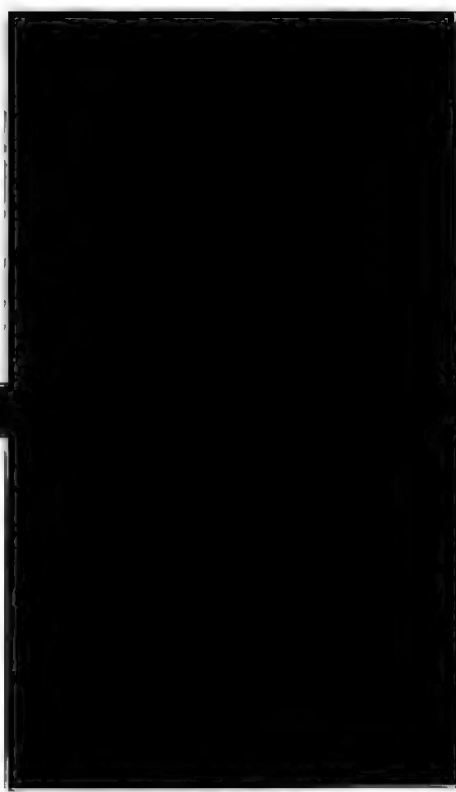
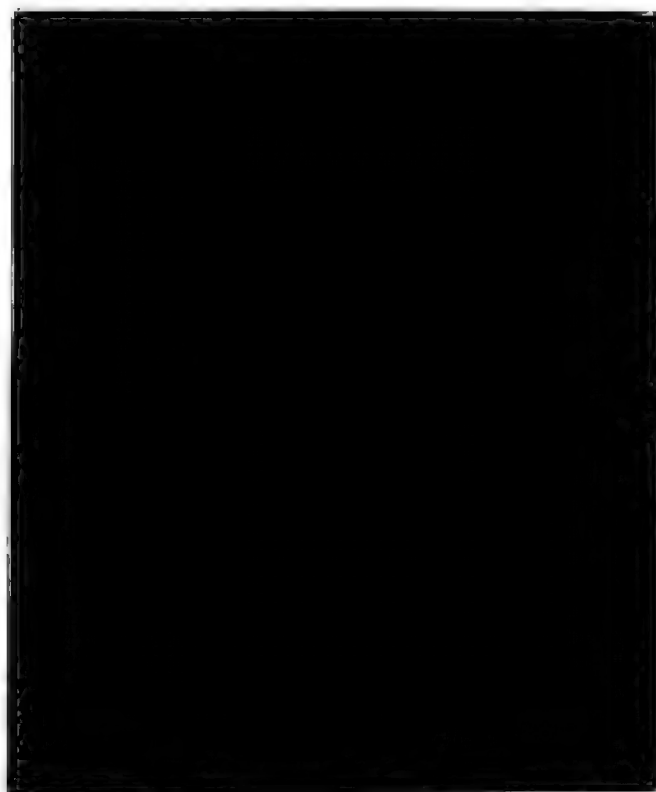
PHEW...
PANT...

NANA!





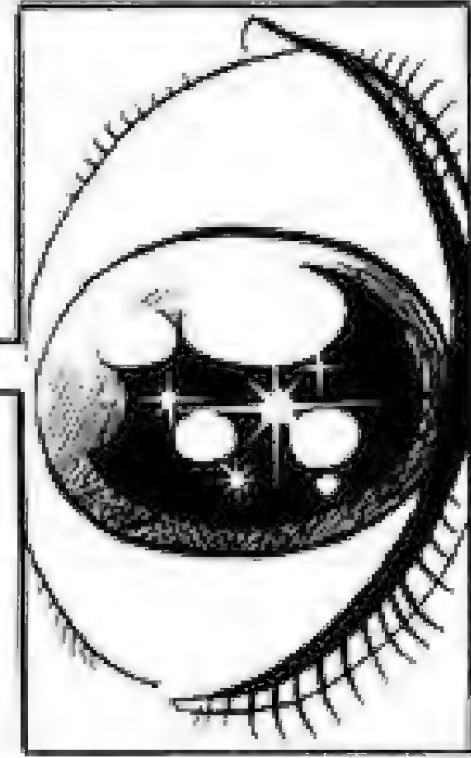




I...I TRUSTED
YOU KIZAKI...
UNTIL...



IT WAS THE
35TH YEAR
AFTER WE
LEFT
ZARTZ.



BUT I TOLD YOU HOW
I FELT MANY TIMES...
I THOUGHT WE
UNDERSTOOD EACH
OTHER.



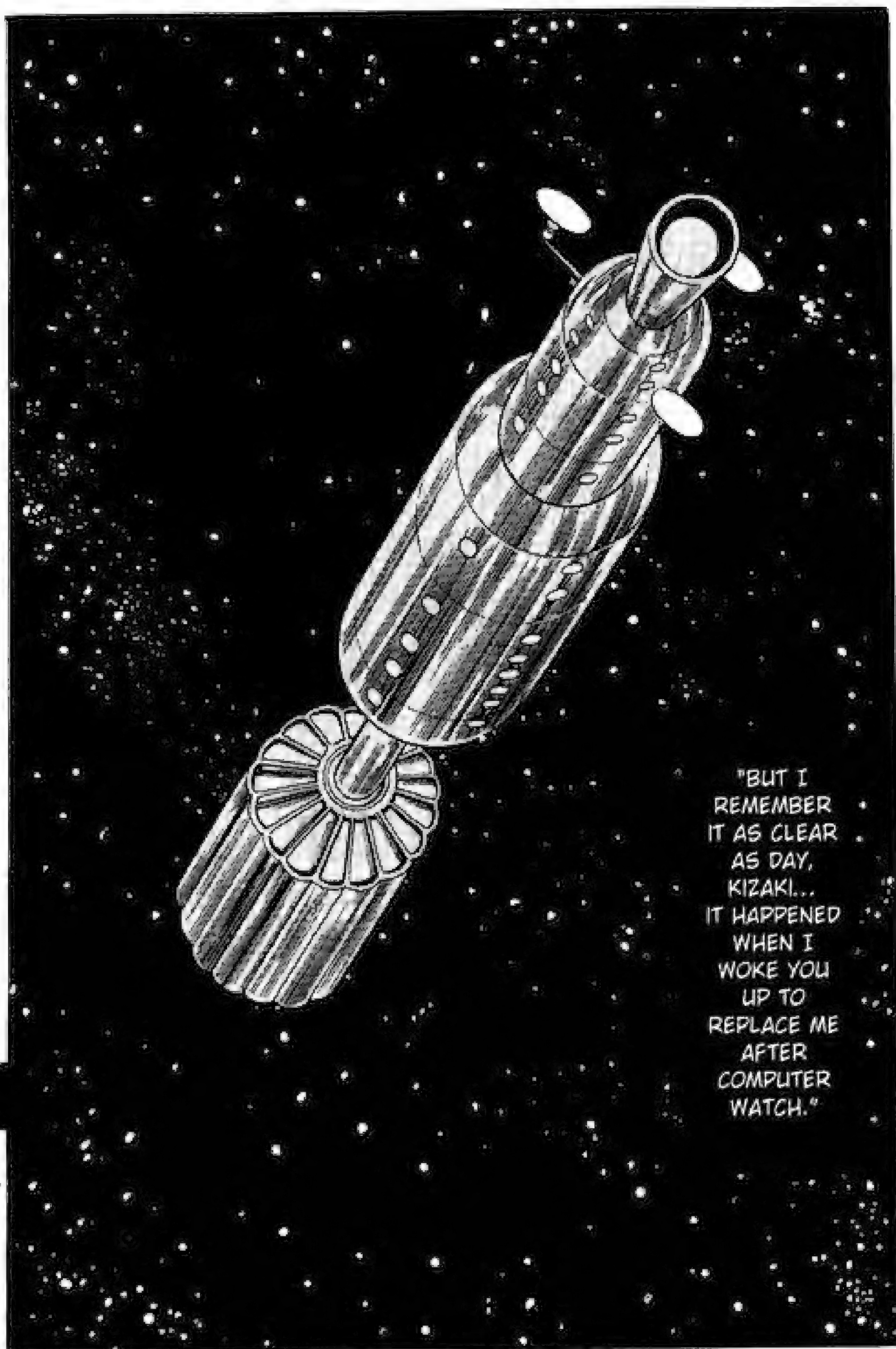
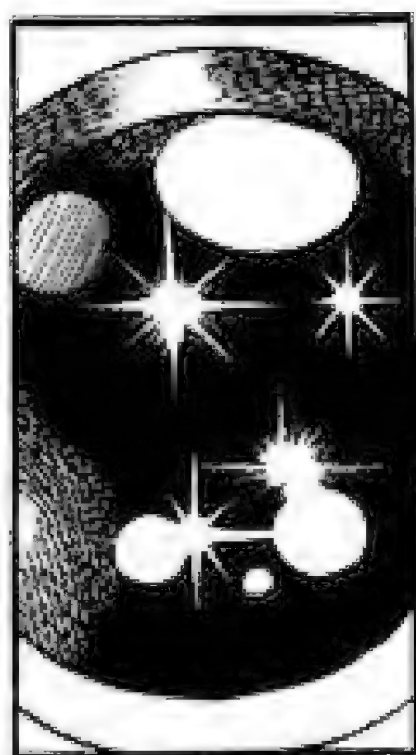
FORGET
WHAT
HAPPENED!
PLEASE!



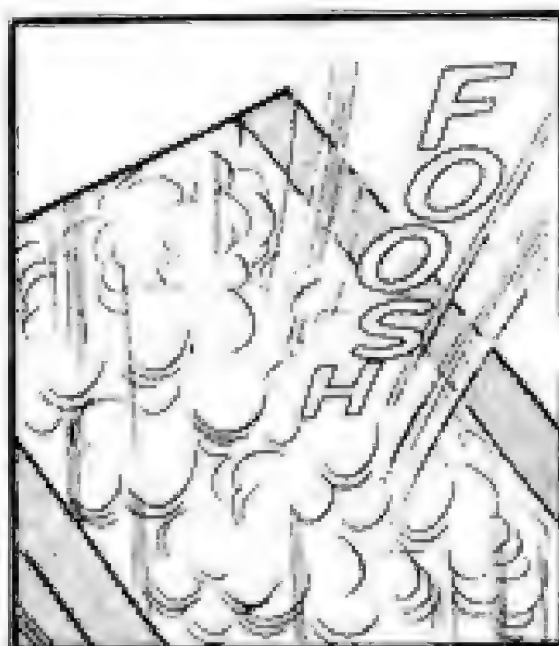
PLEASE,
NANA!

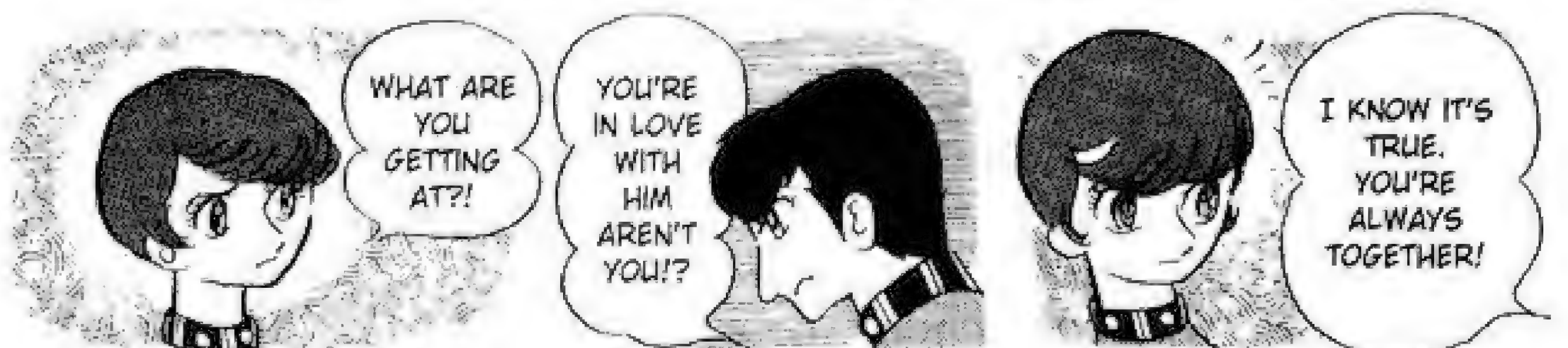
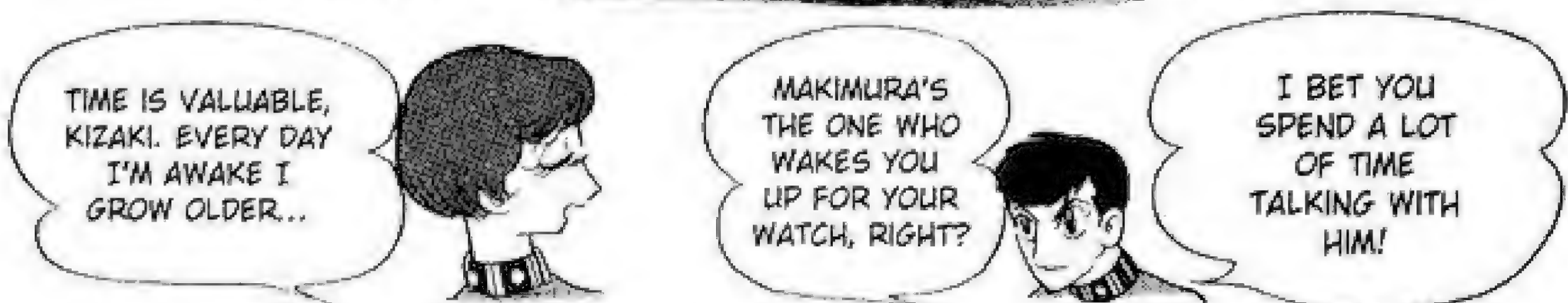
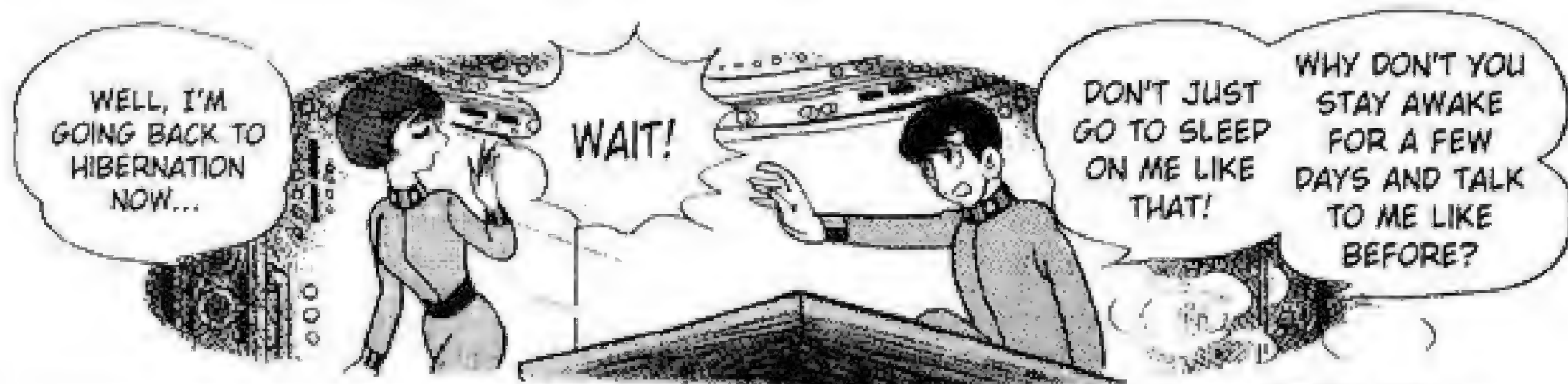
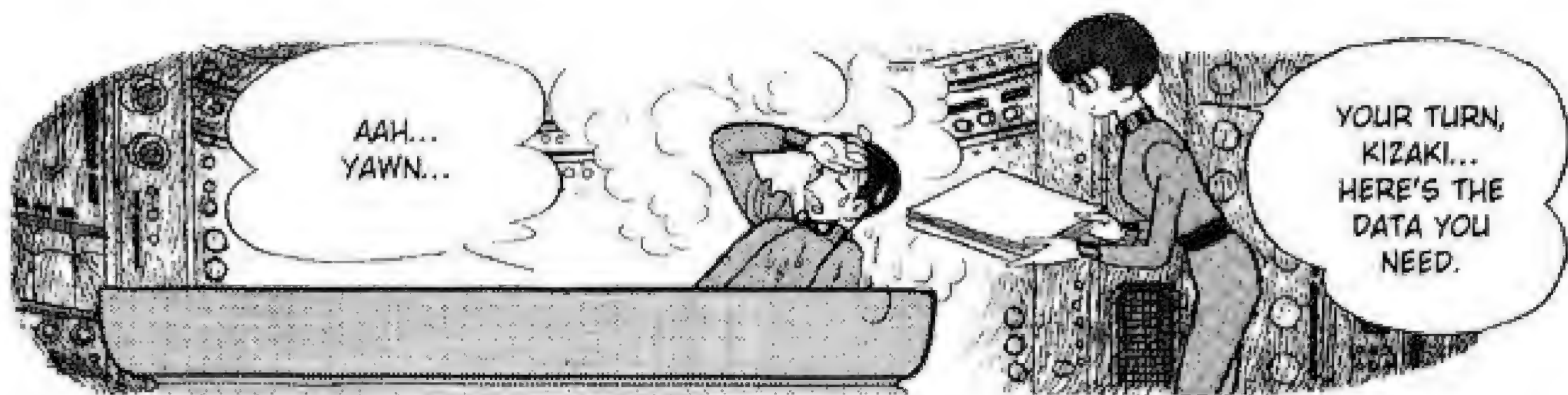


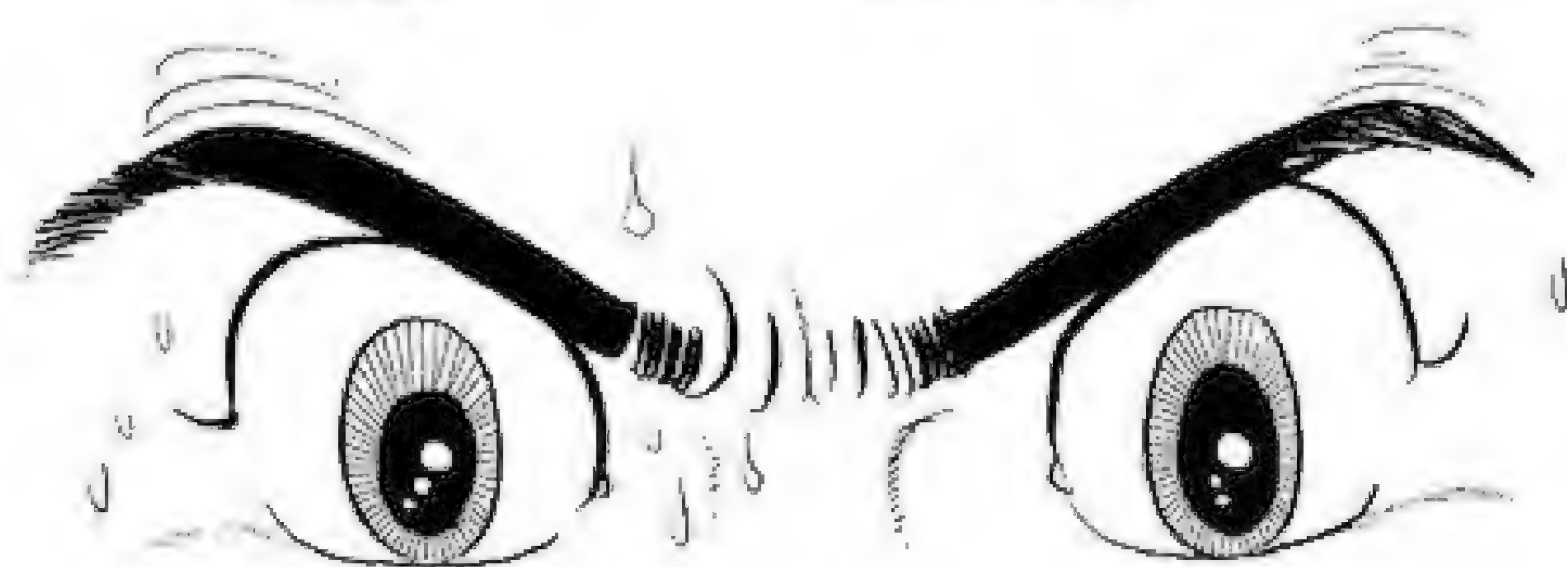
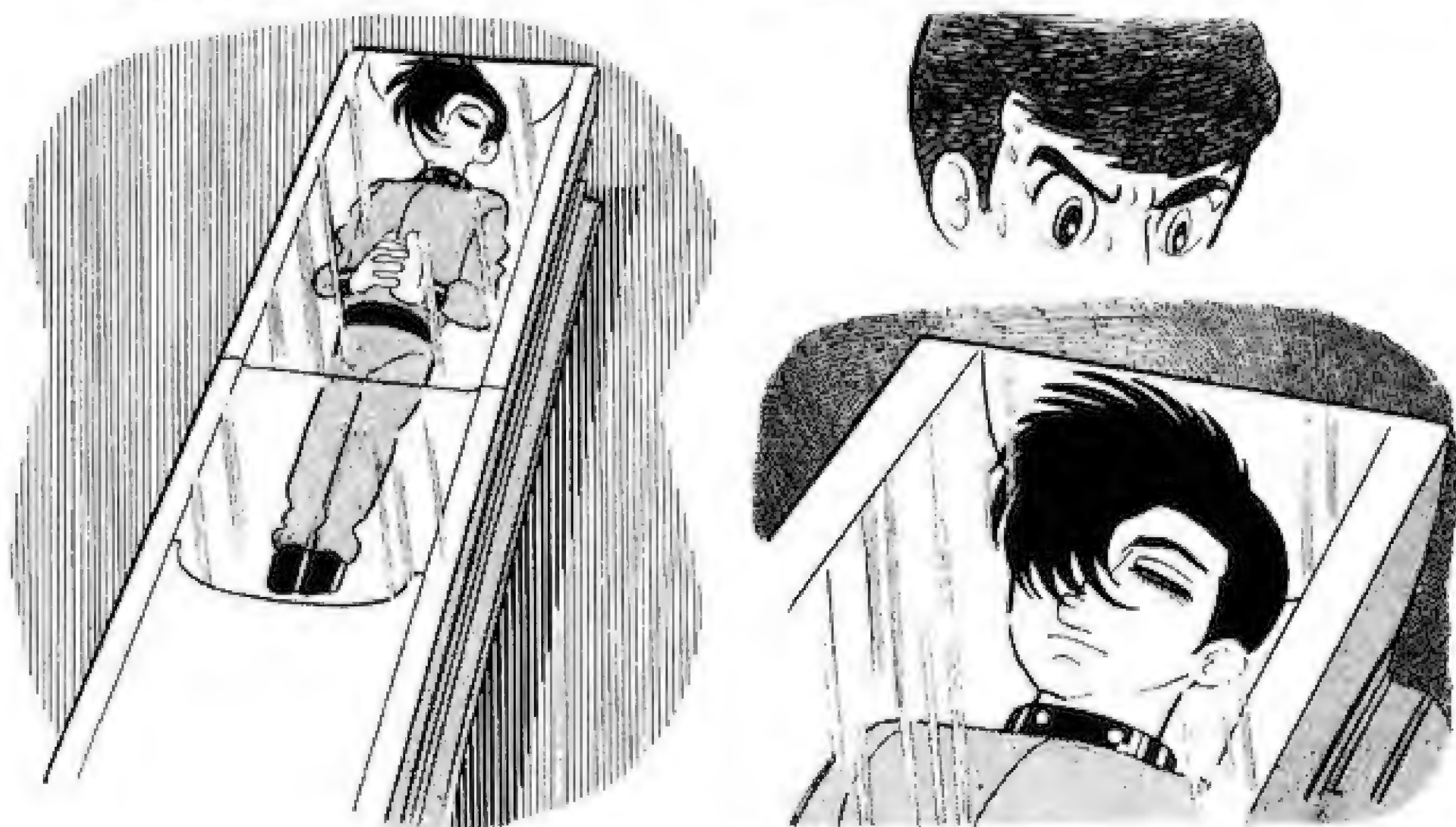
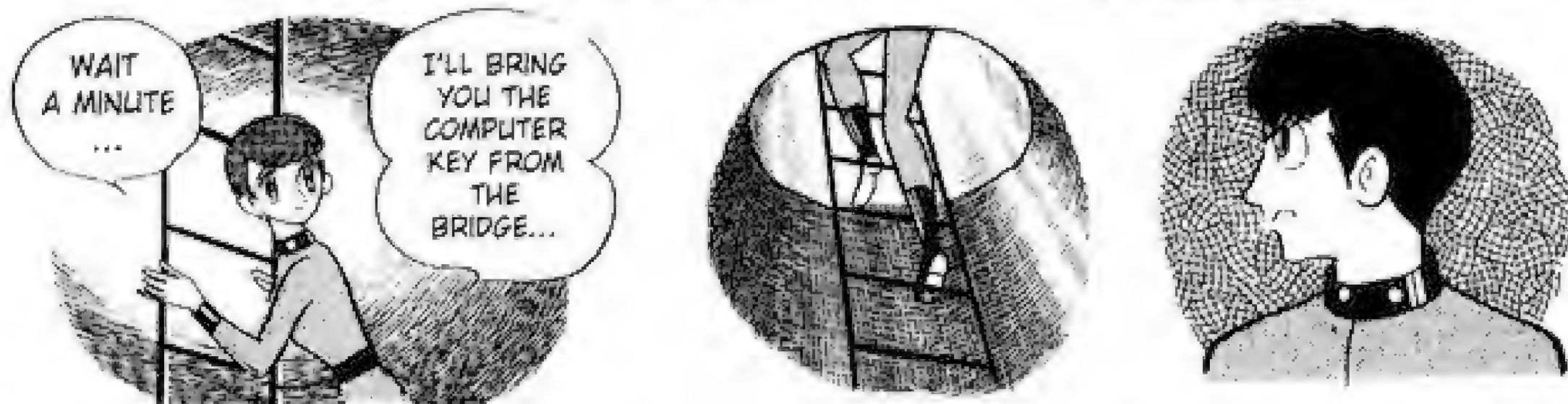
I COULDN'T
HELP IT!
I JUST
COULDN'T!

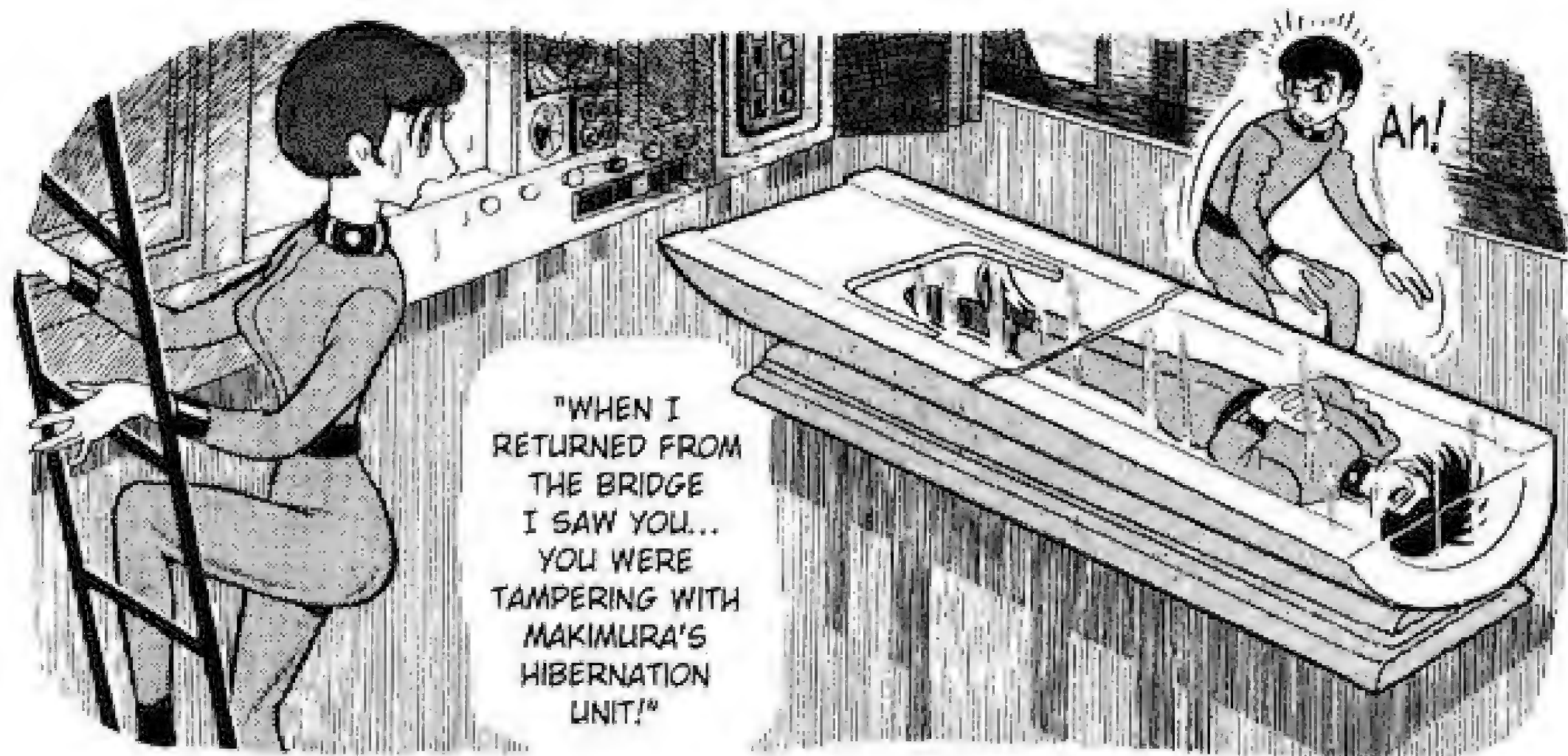
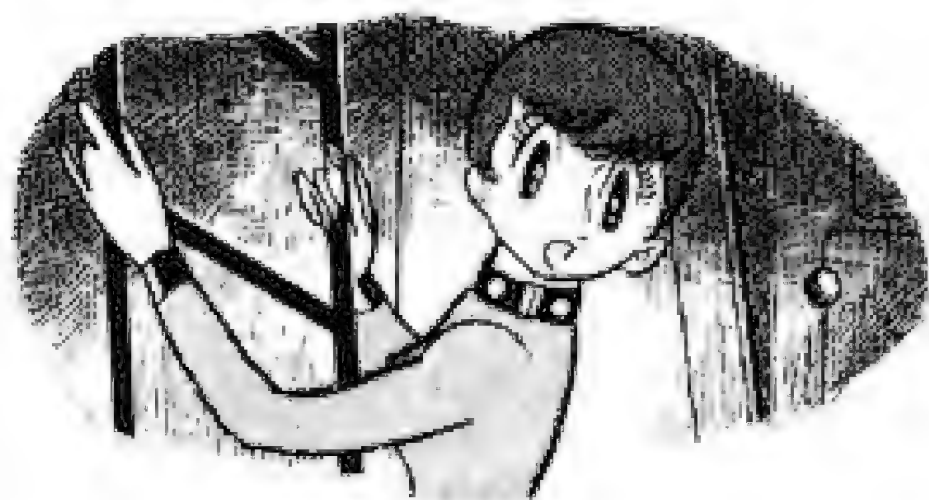
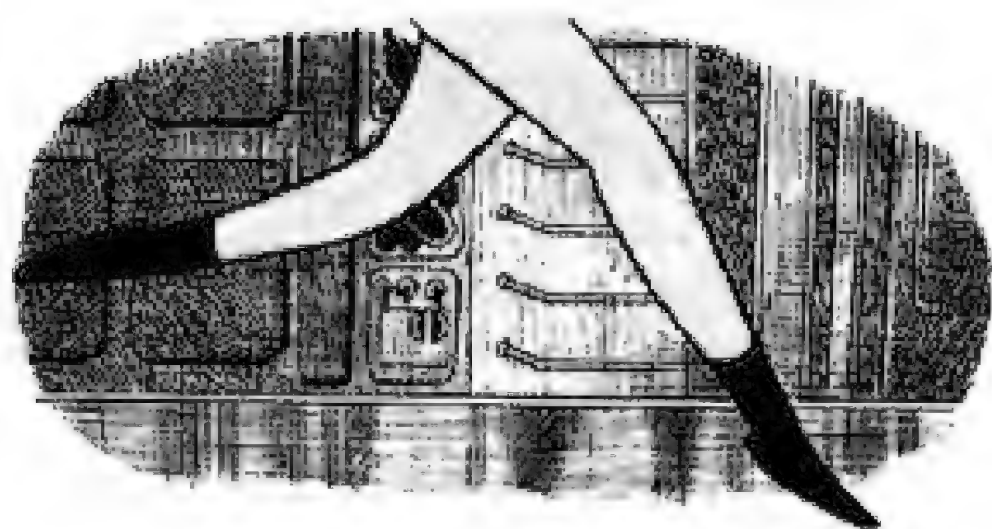


"BUT I
REMEMBER
IT AS CLEAR
AS DAY,
KIZAKI...
IT HAPPENED
WHEN I
WOKE YOU
UP TO
REPLACE ME
AFTER
COMPUTER
WATCH."









"WHEN I
RETURNED FROM
THE BRIDGE
I SAW YOU...
YOU WERE
TAMPERING WITH
MAKIMURA'S
HIBERNATION
UNIT!"

KIZAKI!
WHAT ARE
YOU
DOING?!

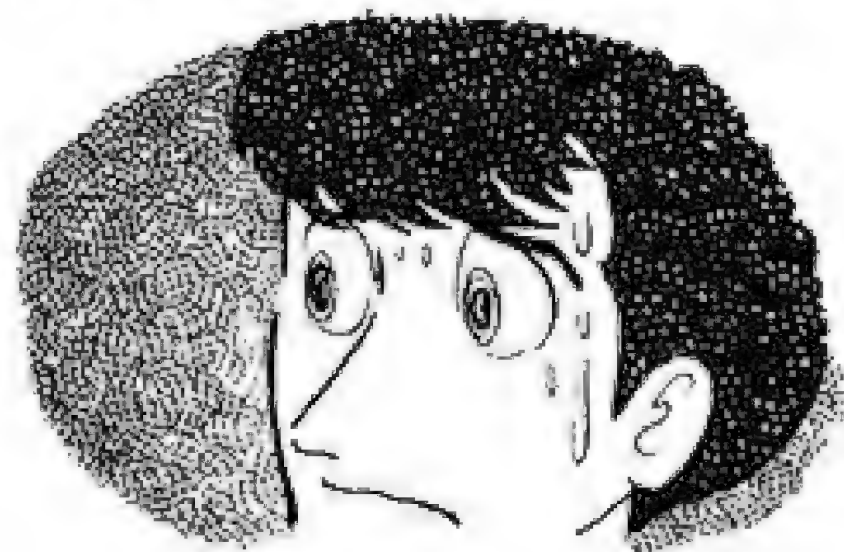
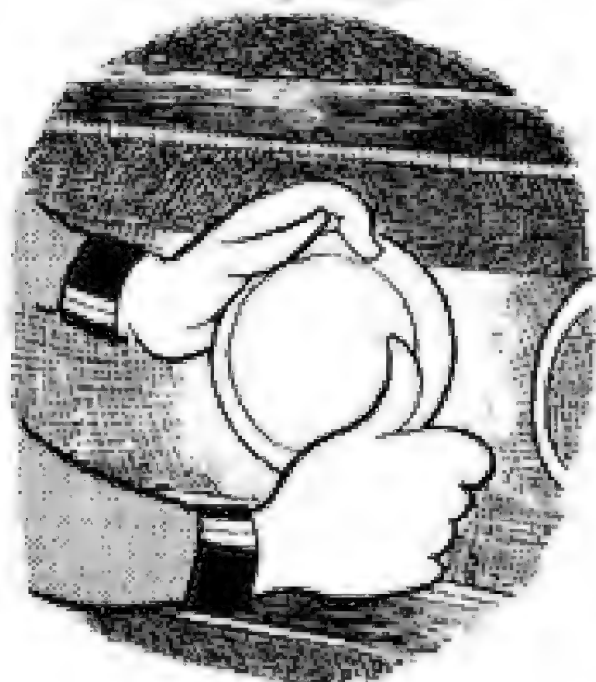


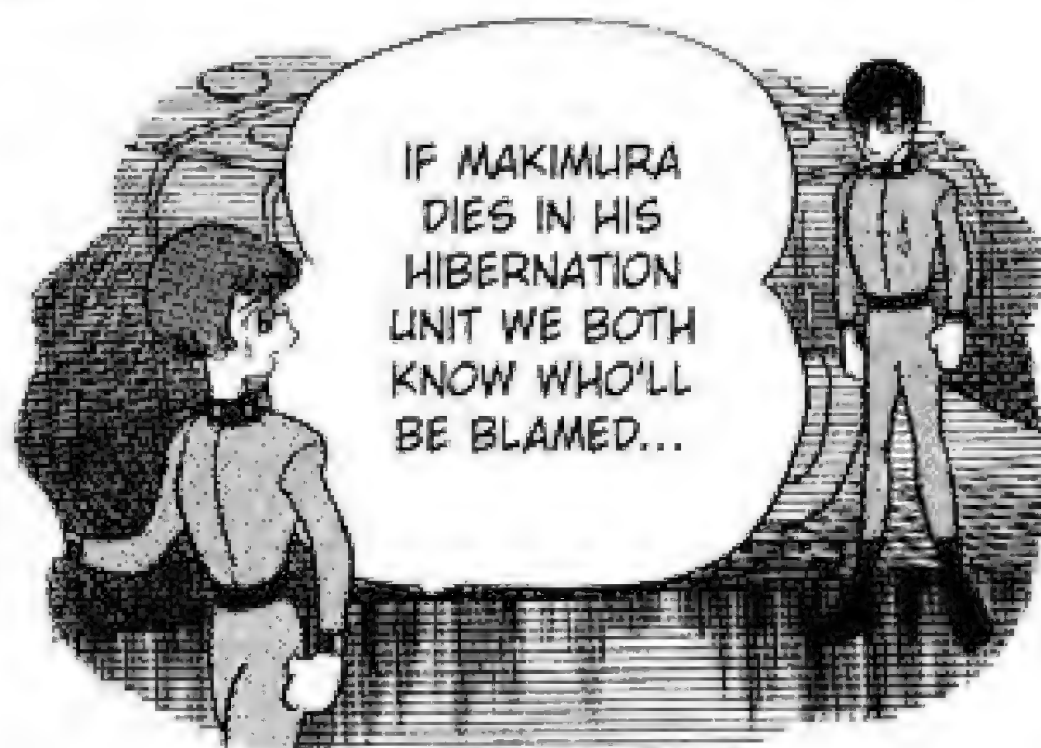
"I CALMED
MYSELF AND
INVESTIGATED
HIS UNIT...
ONE OF THE
VENTILATION
VALVES WAS
SHUT!"

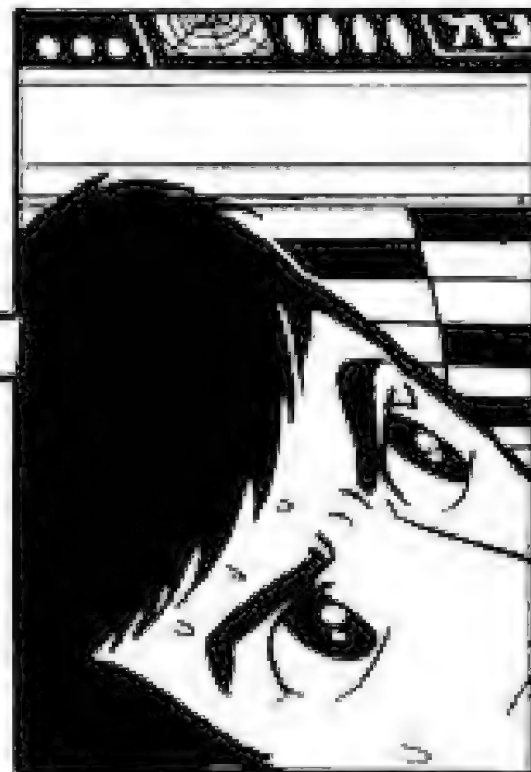
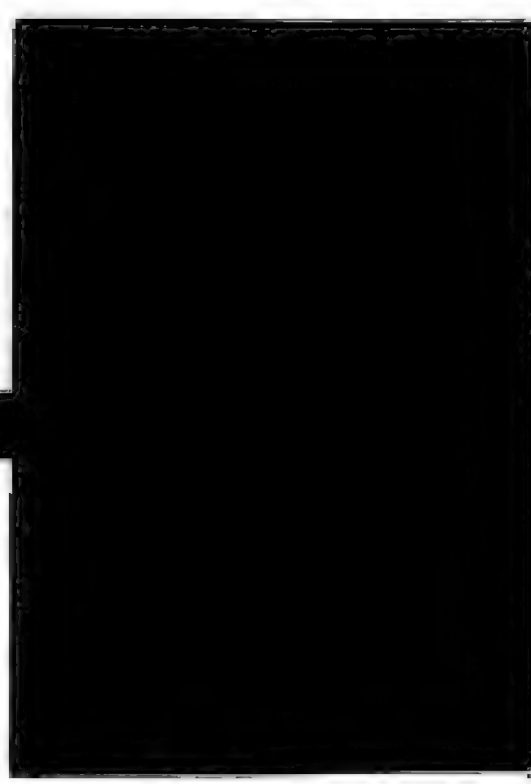
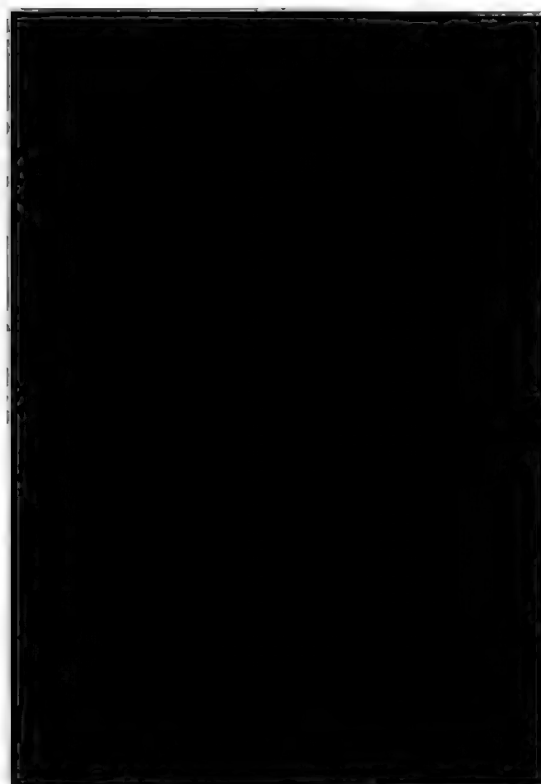


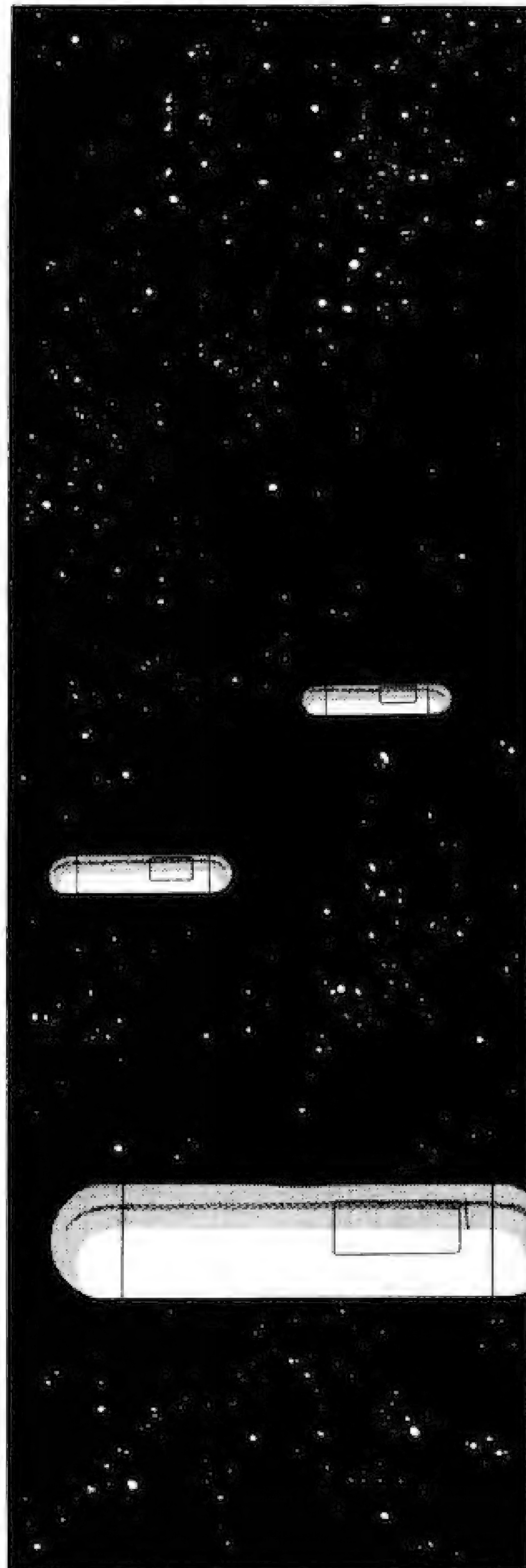
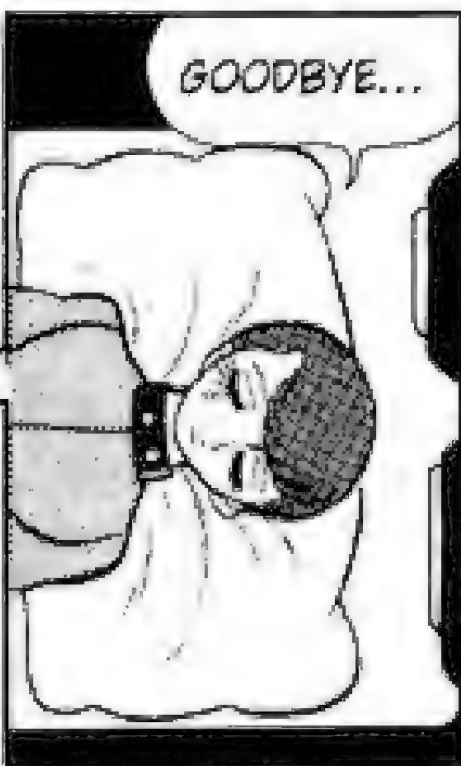
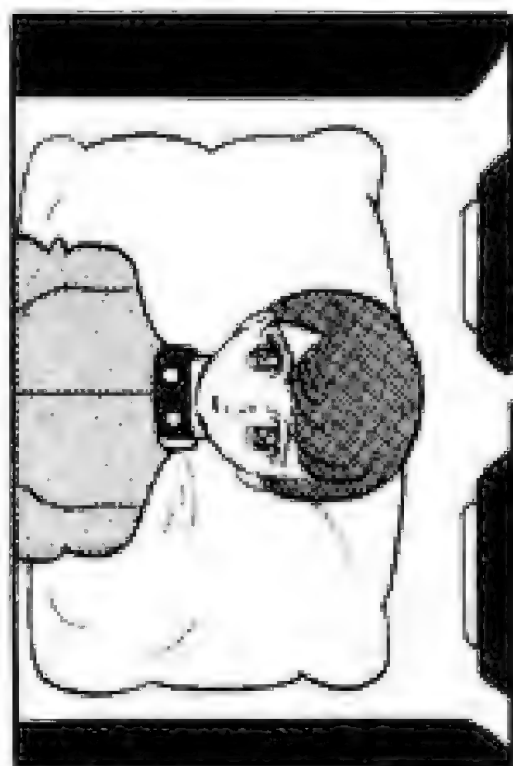
KIZAKI....

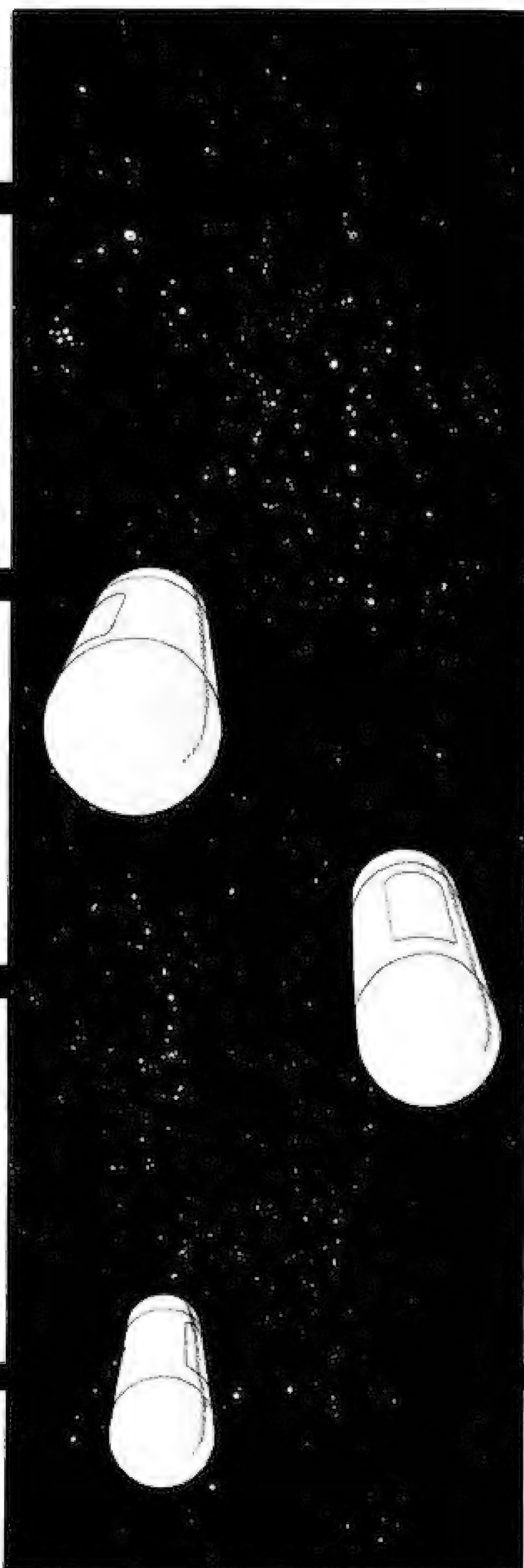
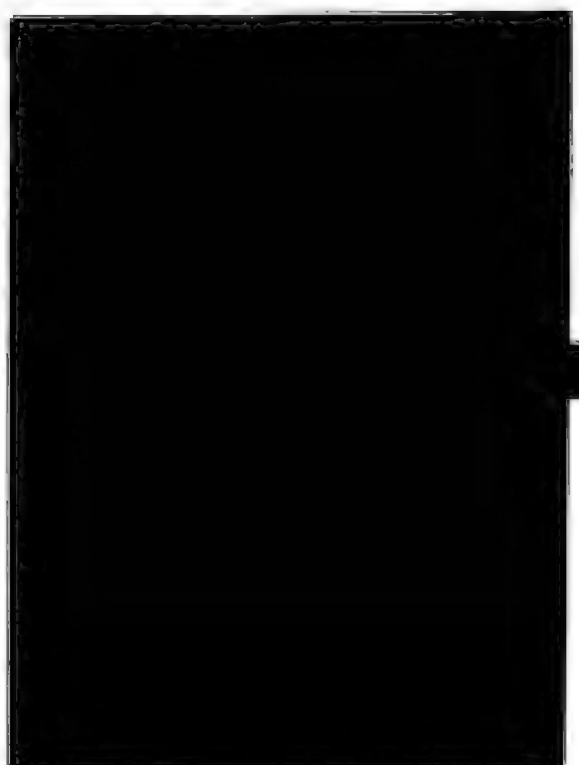
YOU KNOW THAT
UNLESS THESE
VALVES ARE ALL
OPEN MAKIMURA
WILL SUFFOCATE!

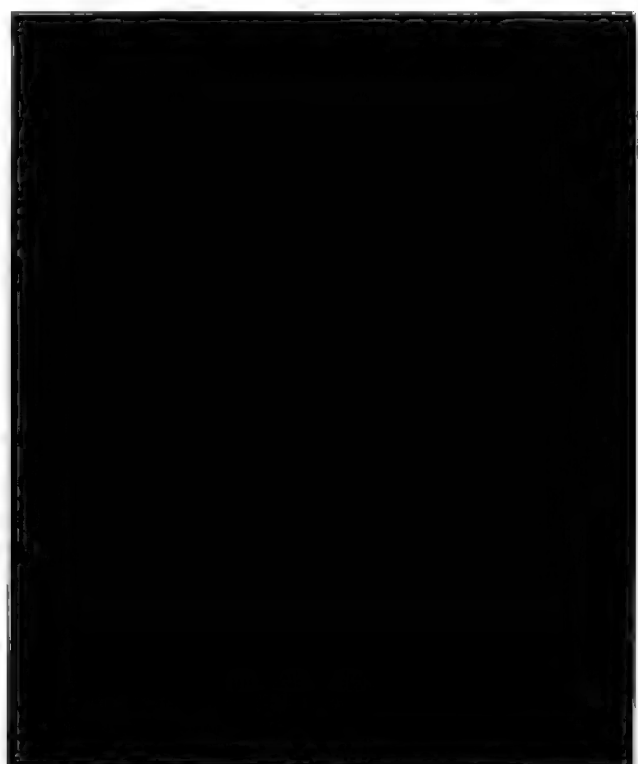
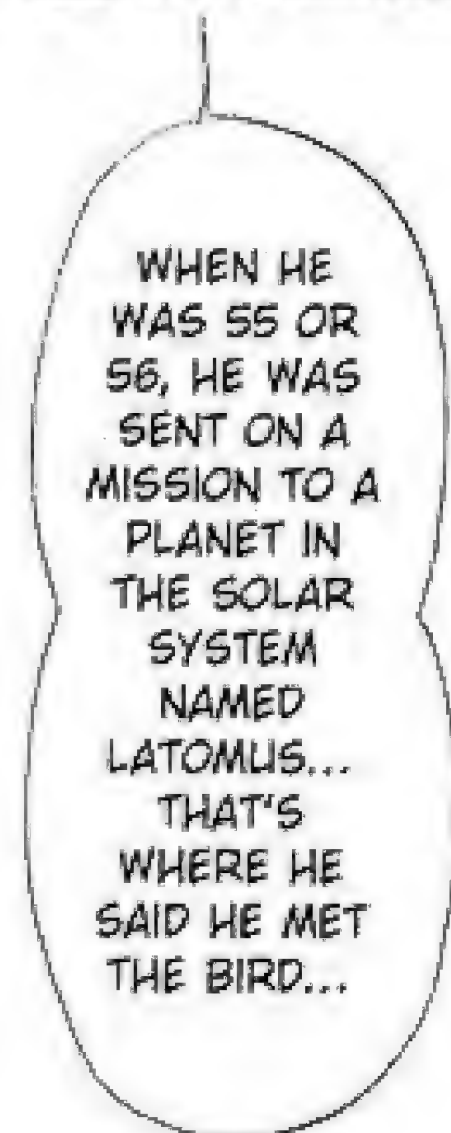
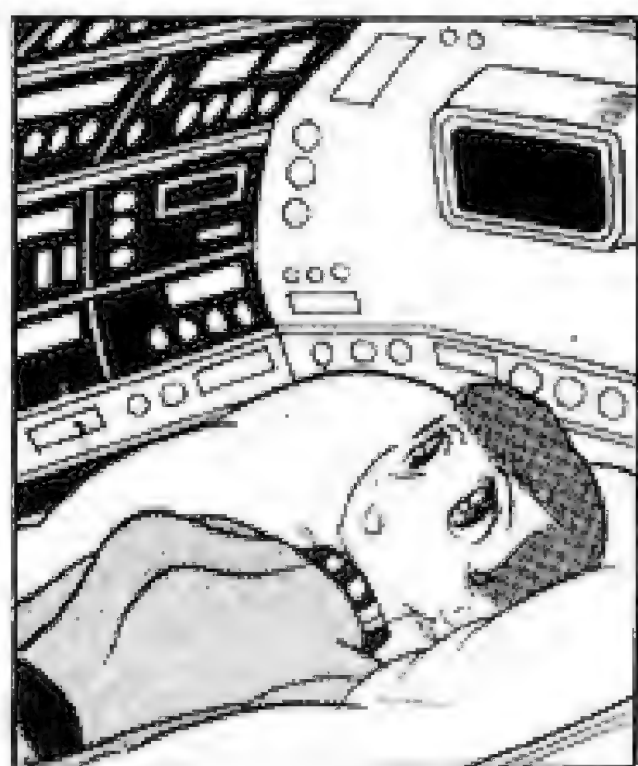












SUPPOSEDLY HE WAS
MINING AND
ANALYZING ORE THERE
WHEN ONE DAY HE
SUDDENLY SAW A
HUGE BIRD...
IT SPOKE TO HIM WITH
TELEPATHY...BEING IN
OUTER SPACE IT WAS,
OF COURSE, NO
ORDINARY BIRD...

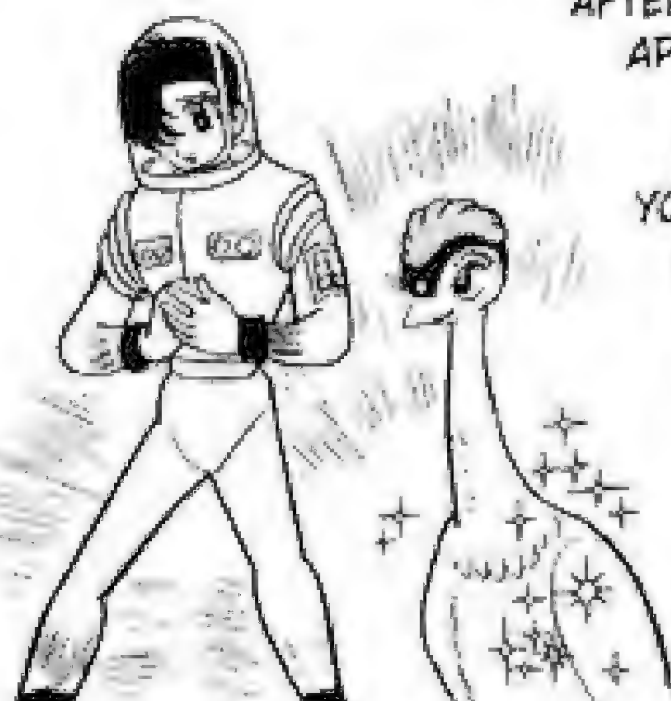
THE FUNNY THING IS,
MAKIMURA CLAIMS
THAT THE BIRD WAS
ATTRACTED TO HIM
AND SAID IT WANTED
TO *MARRY* HIM. IT'S
HARD TO IMAGINE,
BUT THAT'S WHAT
HE SAID...

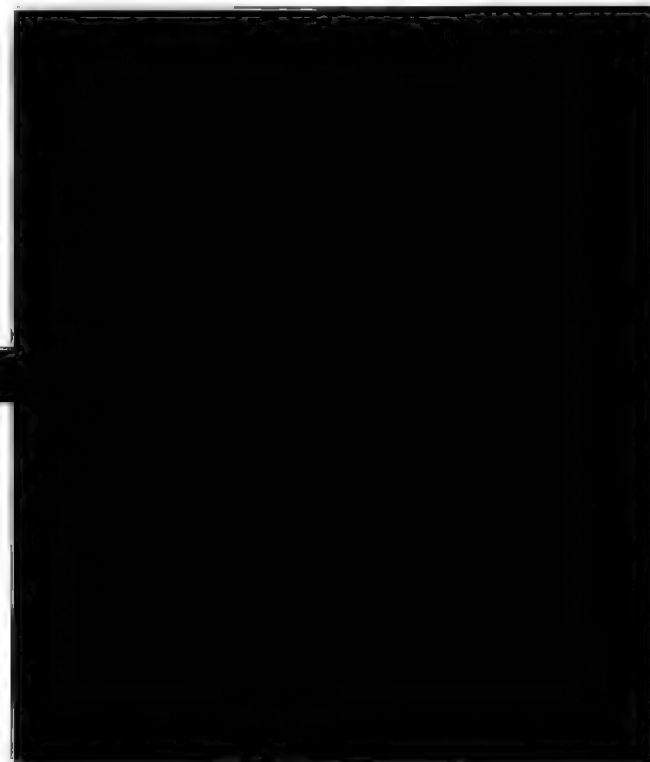
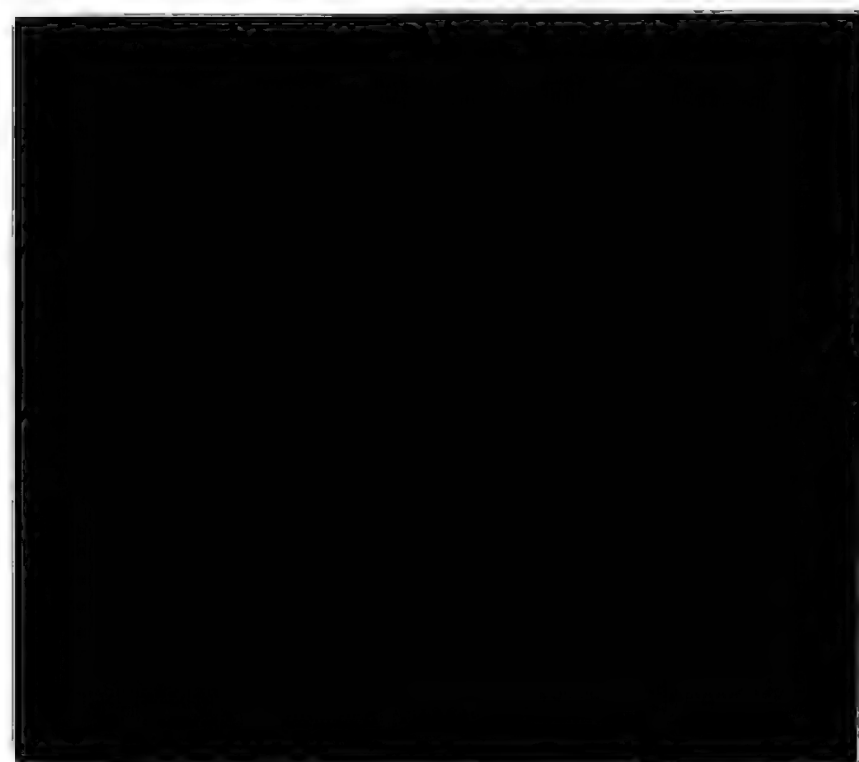
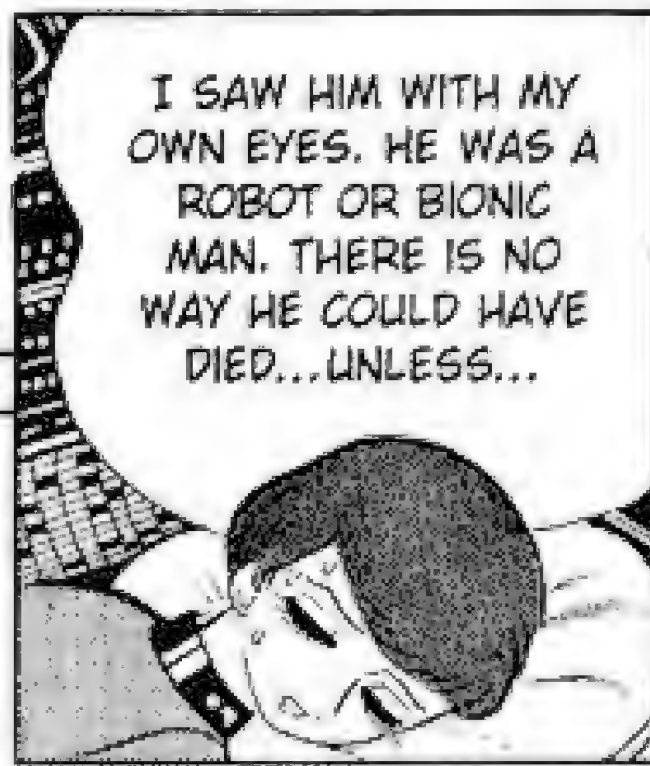
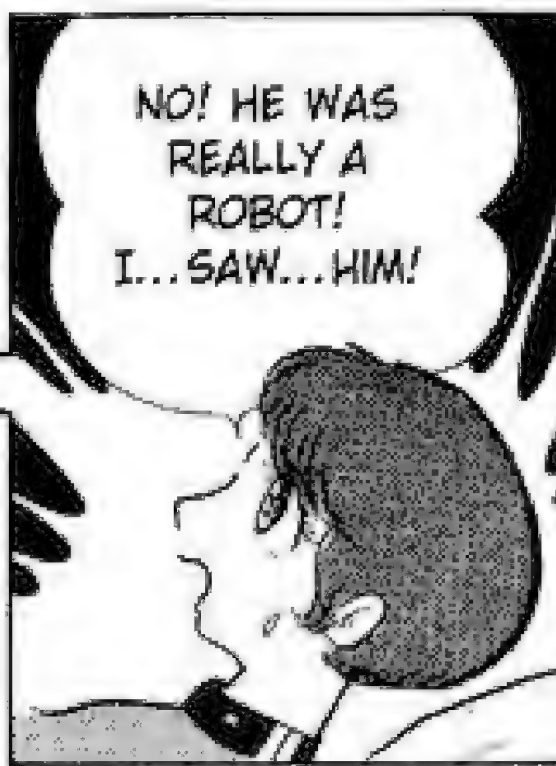
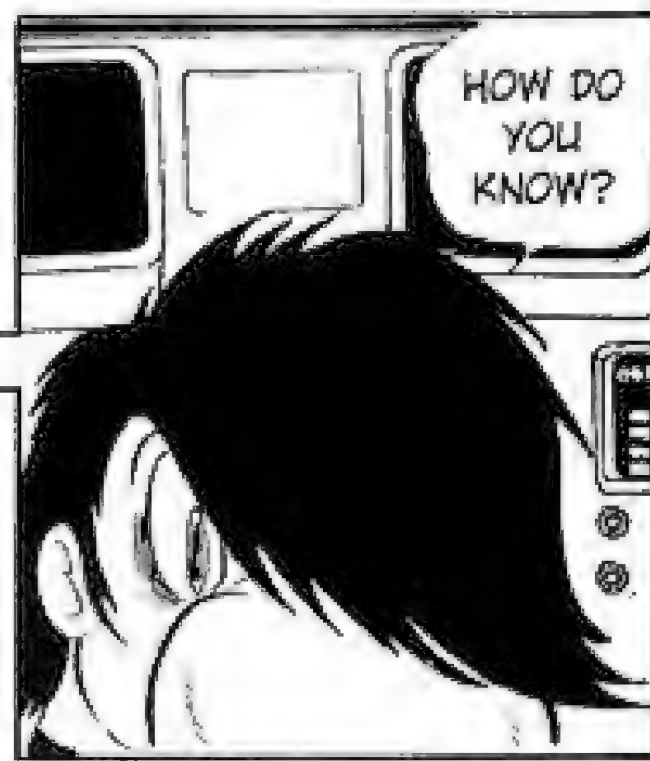
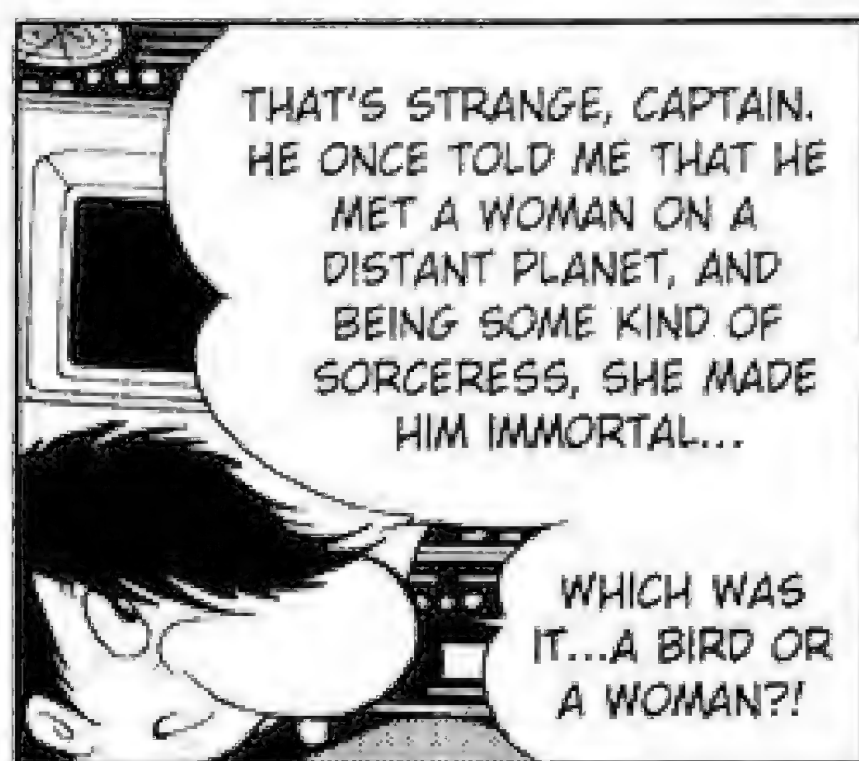


THEN, AS A TOKEN
OF ITS SINCERITY,
IT LET HIM TASTE
ITS BLOOD,
WHICH COULD
BESTOW
IMMORTALITY...

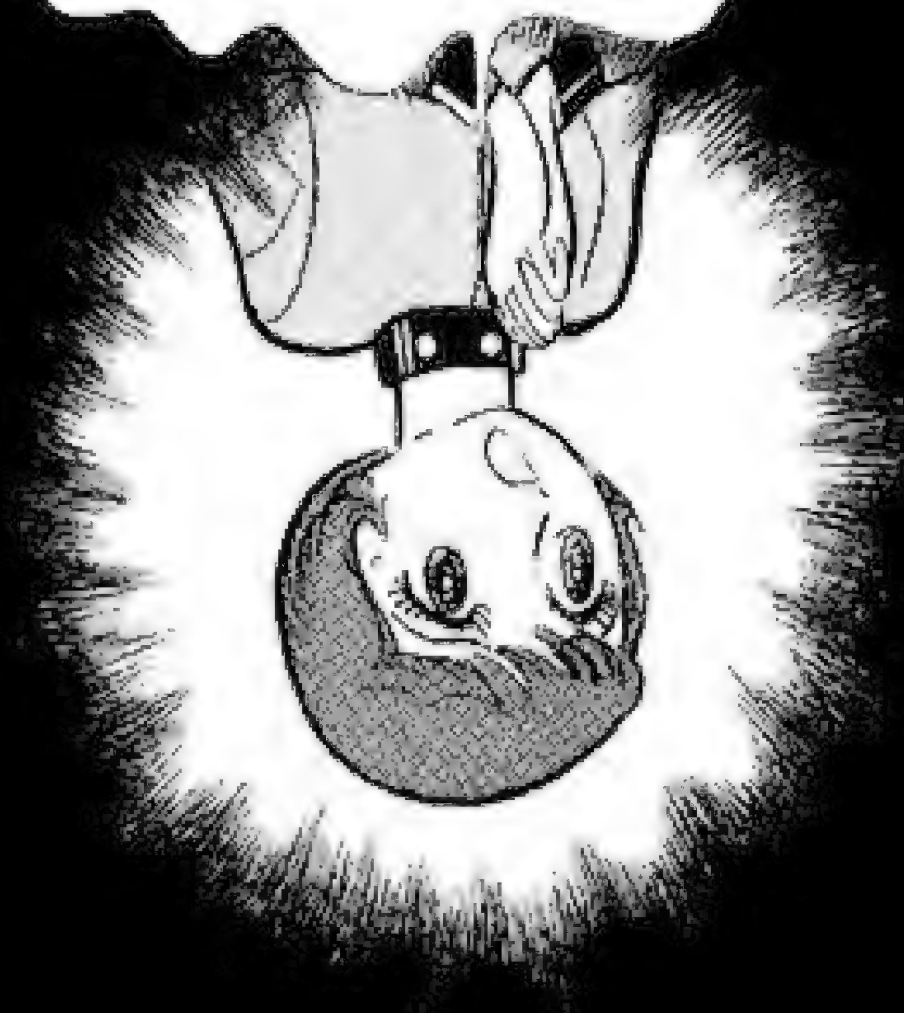


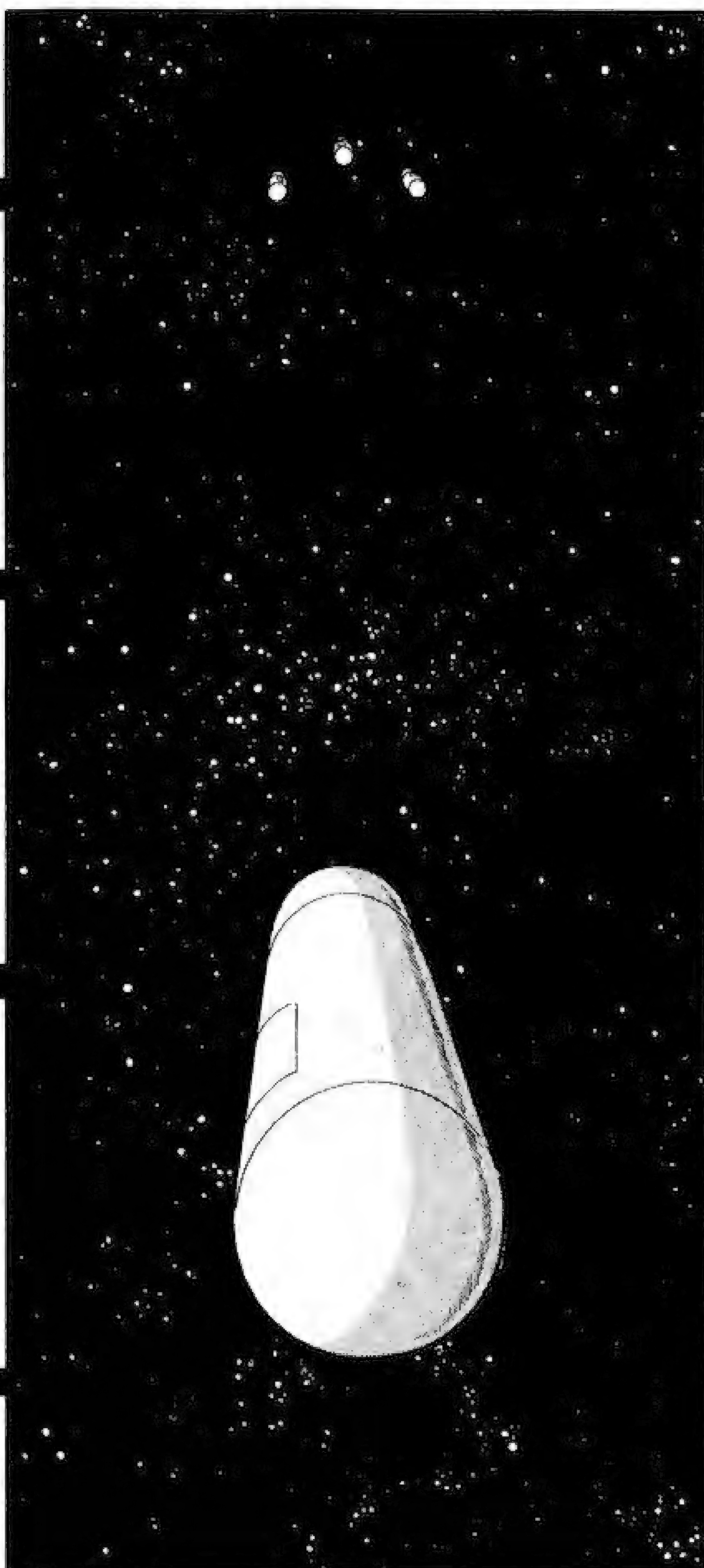
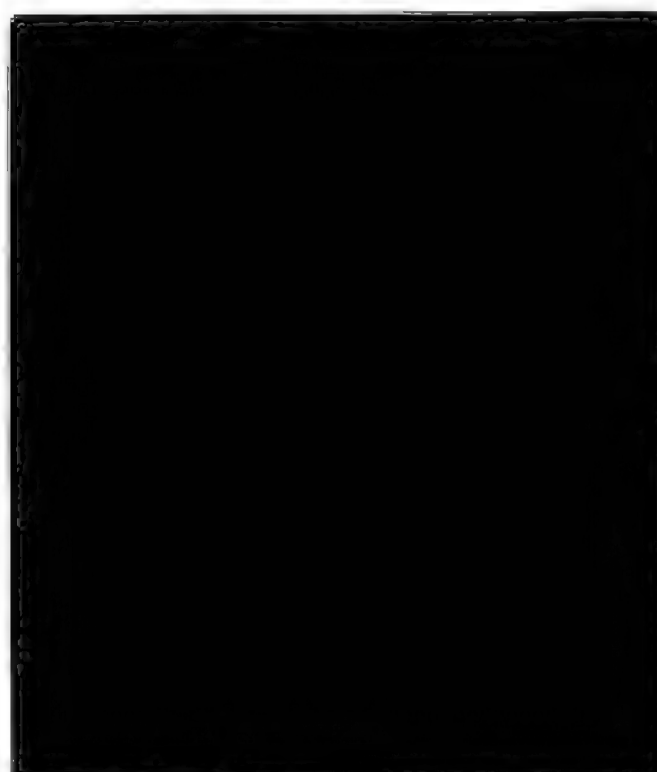
AFTER THAT HE
APPARENTLY
GAINED
ETERNAL
YOUTH AND
HIS RATE
OF AGING
SLOWED
TO 1% OF
OURS...

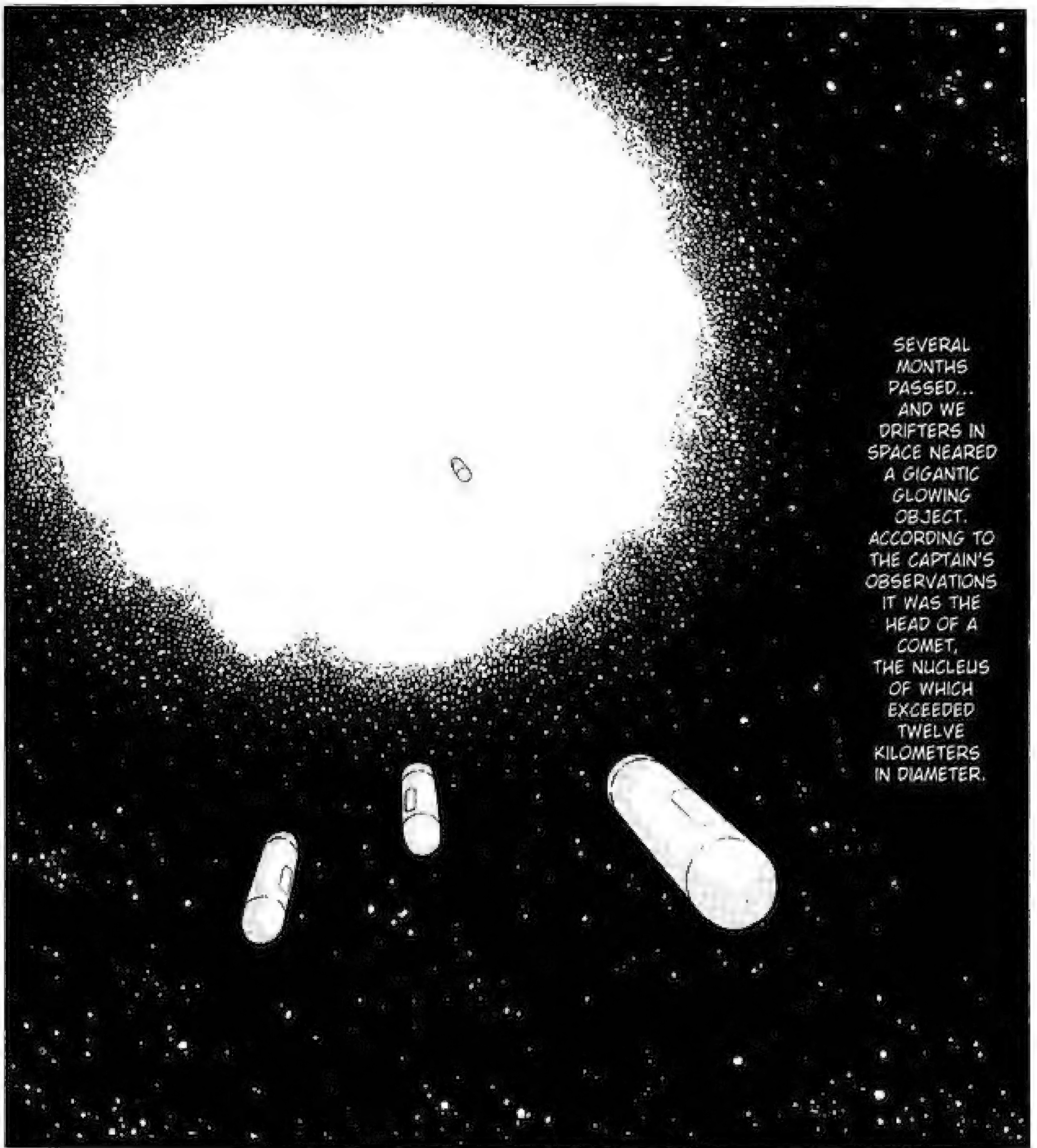




UNLESS THAT BODY
WASN'T MAKIMURA!
IT MAY HAVE BEEN
SOMEONE ELSE!
...AND MAKIMURA IS
STILL ALIVE.
THAT'S IT!
HE MUST BE STILL
ALIVE!

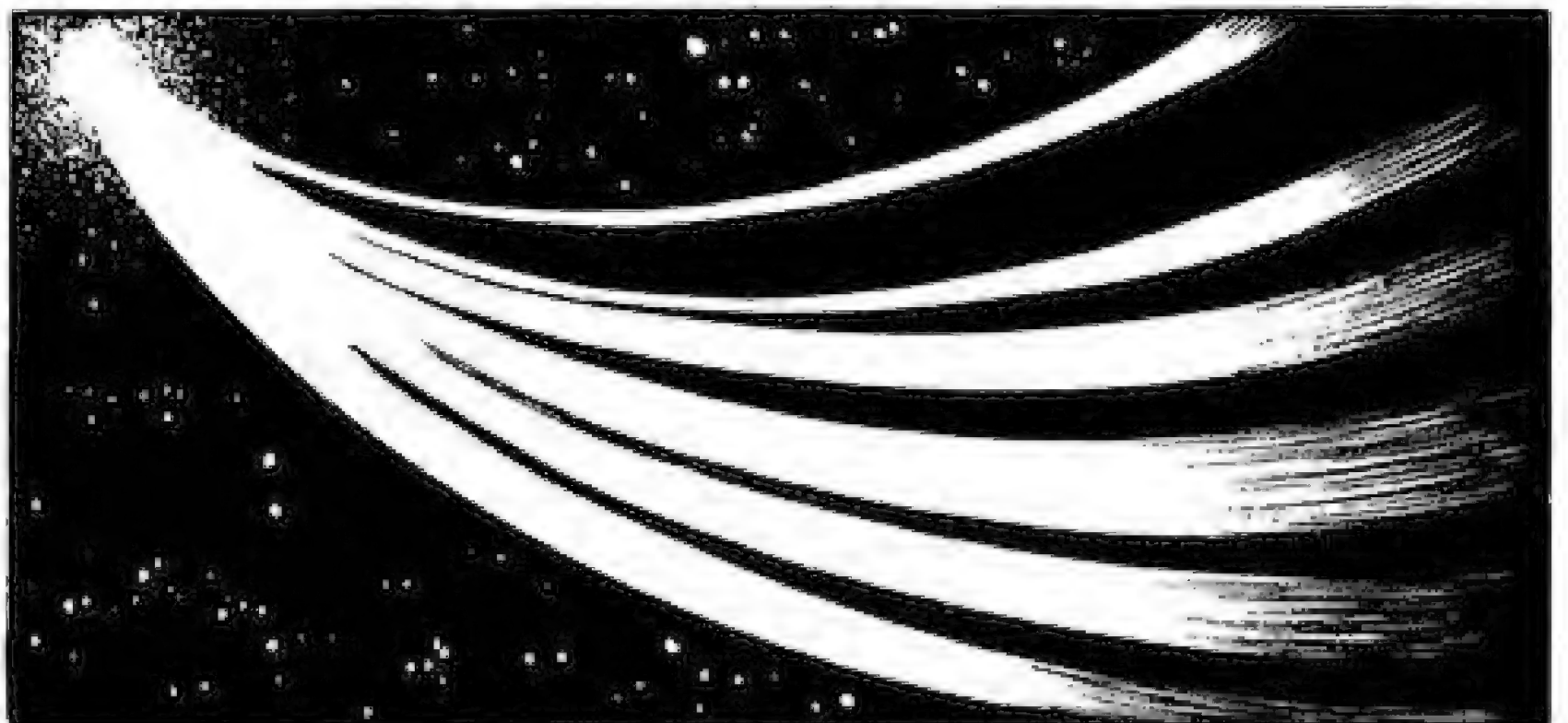


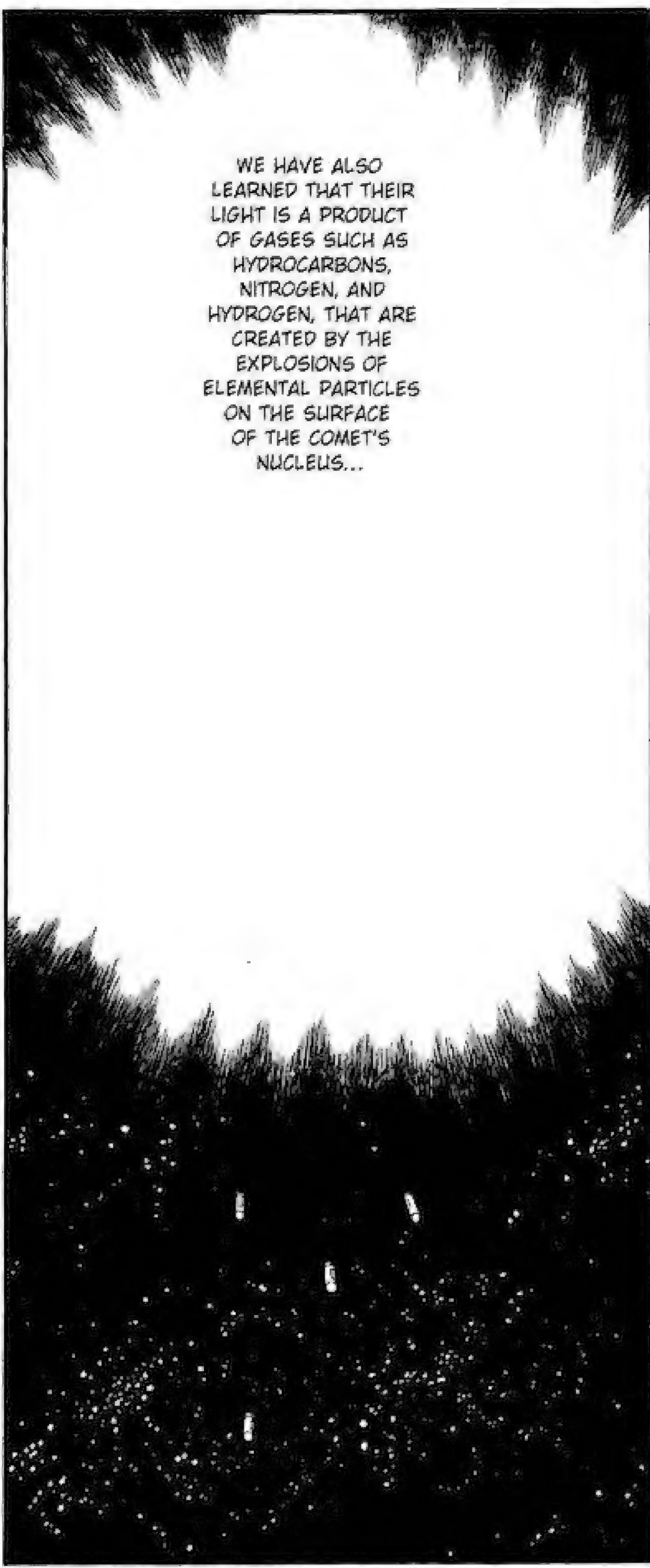





SEVERAL MONTHS PASSED... AND WE DRIFTERS IN SPACE NEARED A GIGANTIC GLOWING OBJECT. ACCORDING TO THE CAPTAIN'S OBSERVATIONS IT WAS THE HEAD OF A COMET, THE NUCLEUS OF WHICH EXCEEDED TWELVE KILOMETERS IN DIAMETER.

IN ANCIENT TIMES IT WAS GENERALLY BELIEVED THAT COMETS ONLY GAVE OFF LIGHT WHEN THEY APPROACHED A FIXED STAR—A LONG TAIL THEN APPEARING. NOW, HOWEVER, IN THE 26TH CENTURY, IT IS COMMON KNOWLEDGE THAT COMETS AND STARS ARE ESSENTIALLY THE SAME IN NATURE...





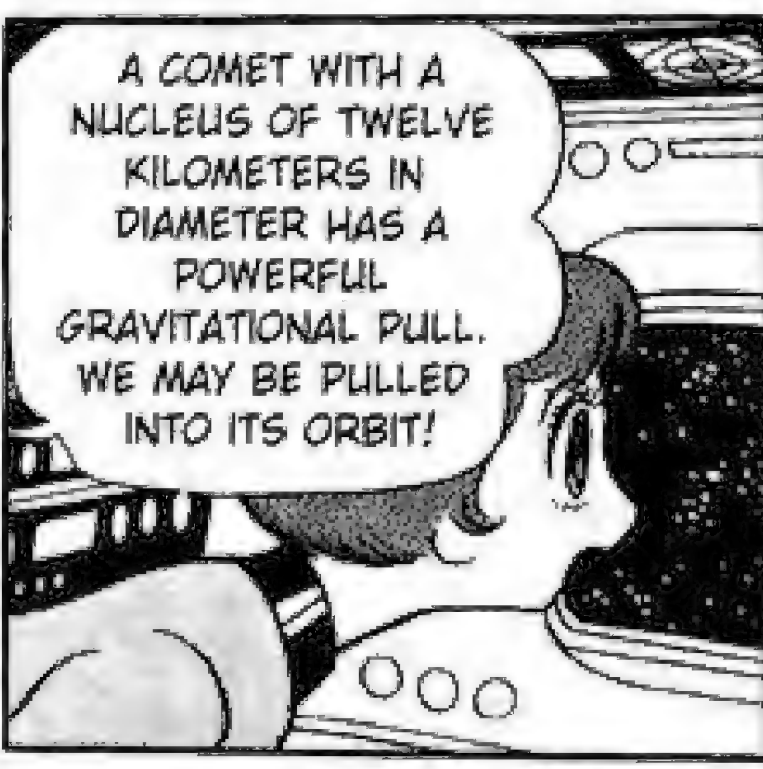
WE HAVE ALSO
LEARNED THAT THEIR
LIGHT IS A PRODUCT
OF GASES SUCH AS
HYDROCARBONS,
NITROGEN, AND
HYDROGEN, THAT ARE
CREATED BY THE
EXPLOSIONS OF
ELEMENTAL PARTICLES
ON THE SURFACE
OF THE COMET'S
NUCLEUS...



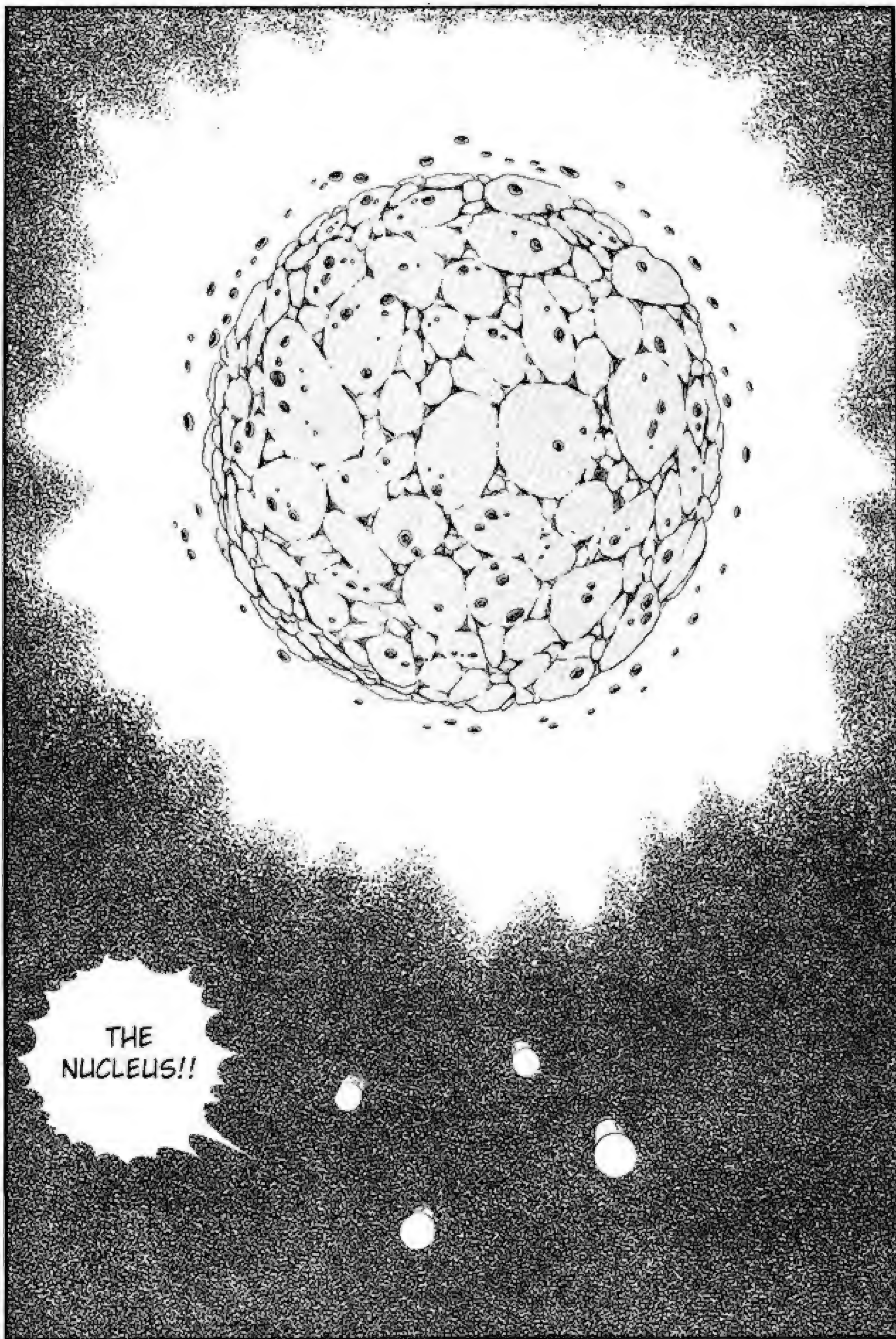
EVERYONE BE
ALERT. WE'VE
ENTERED THE
GASEOUS AREA
OF THE COMET.

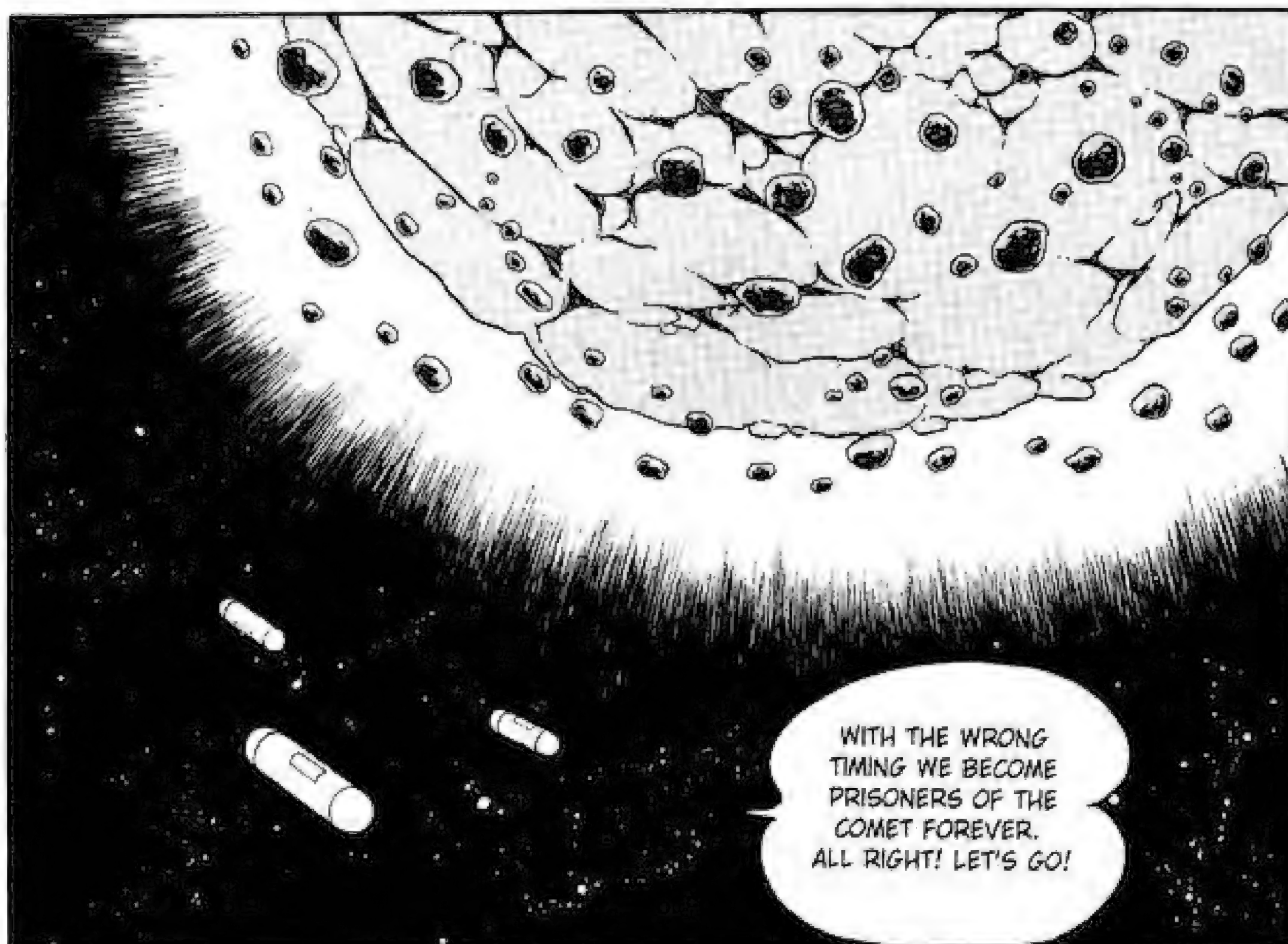
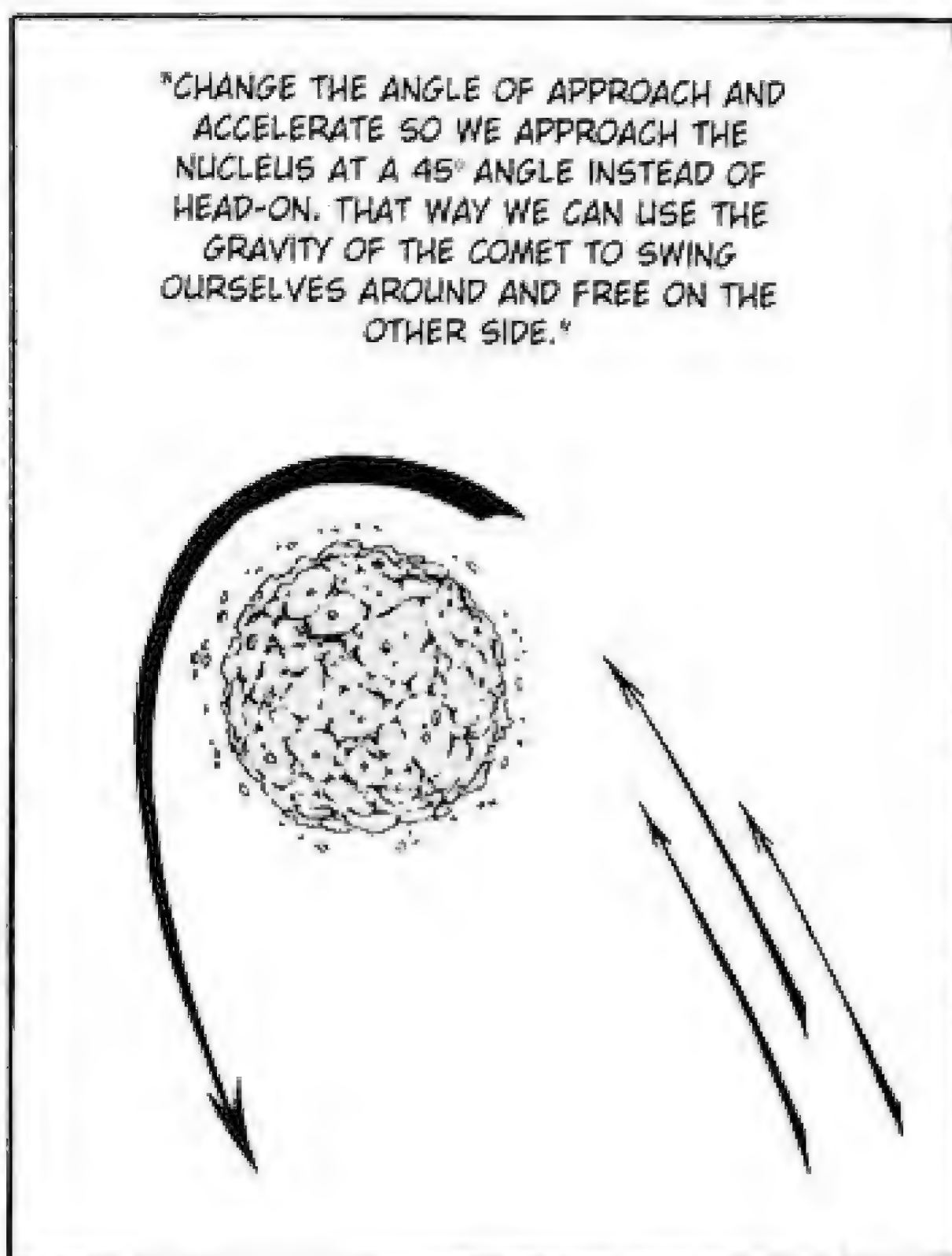


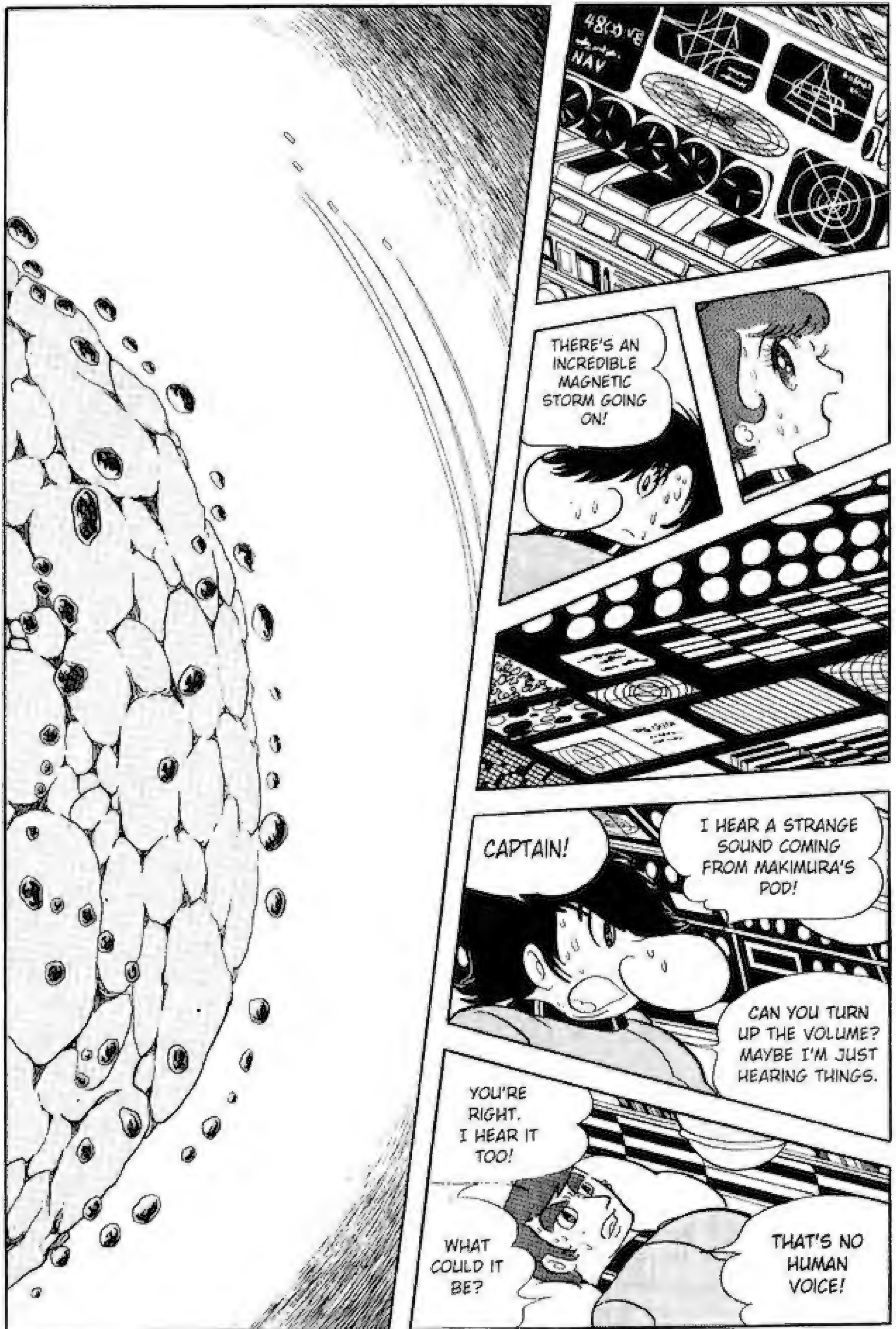
WE'LL SOON
APPROACH
THE
NUCLEUS
ITSELF.

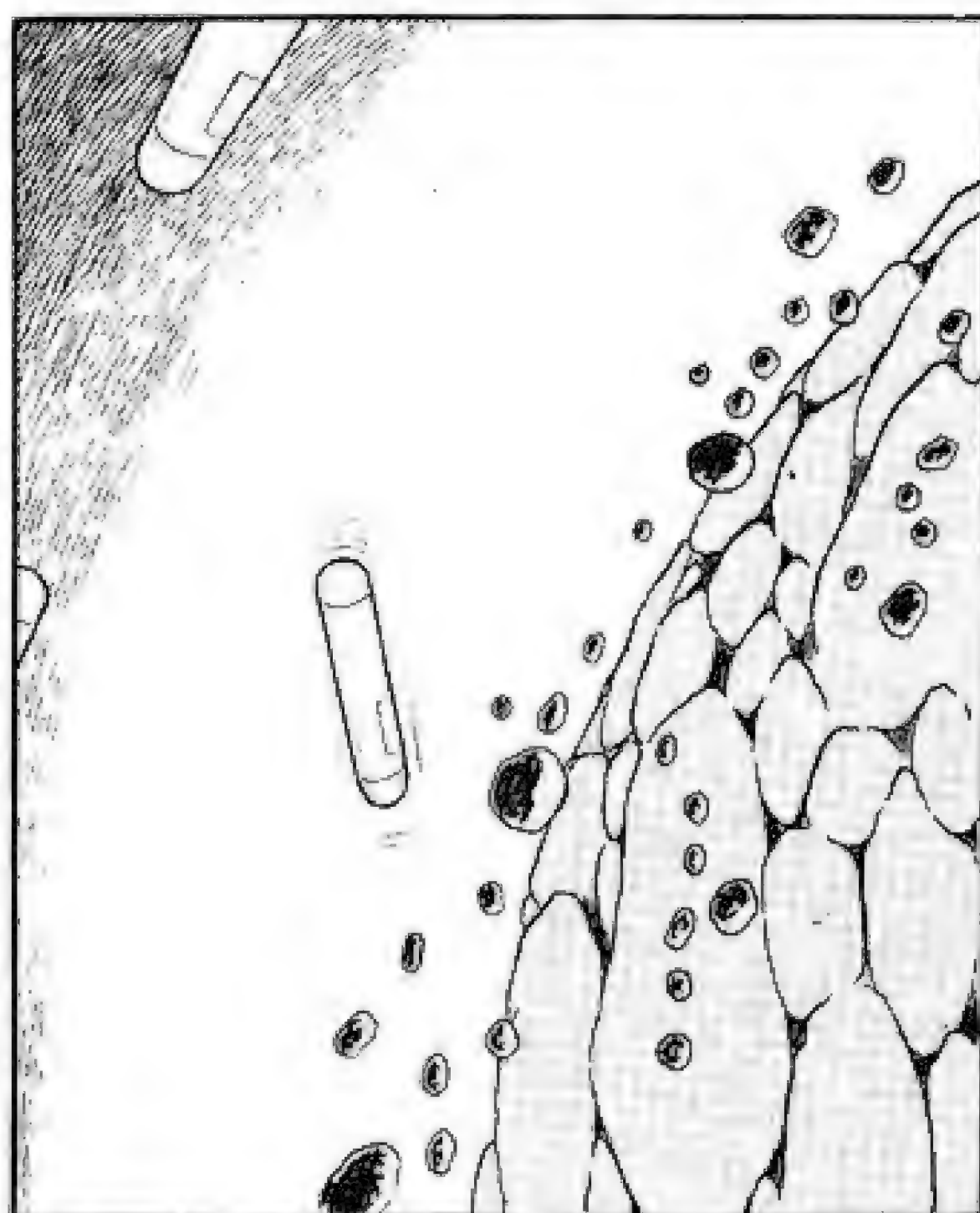
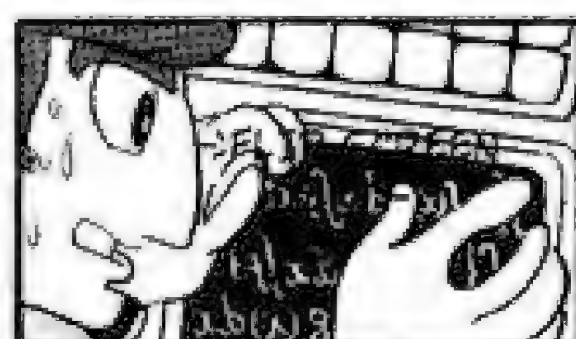
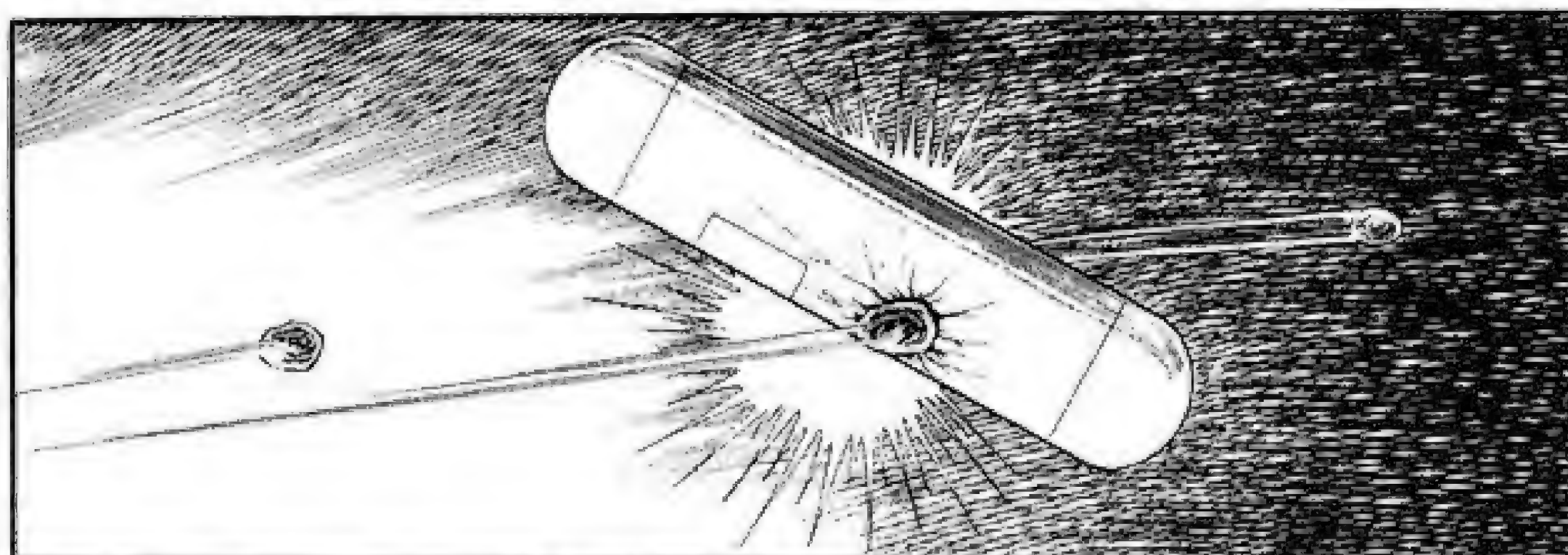
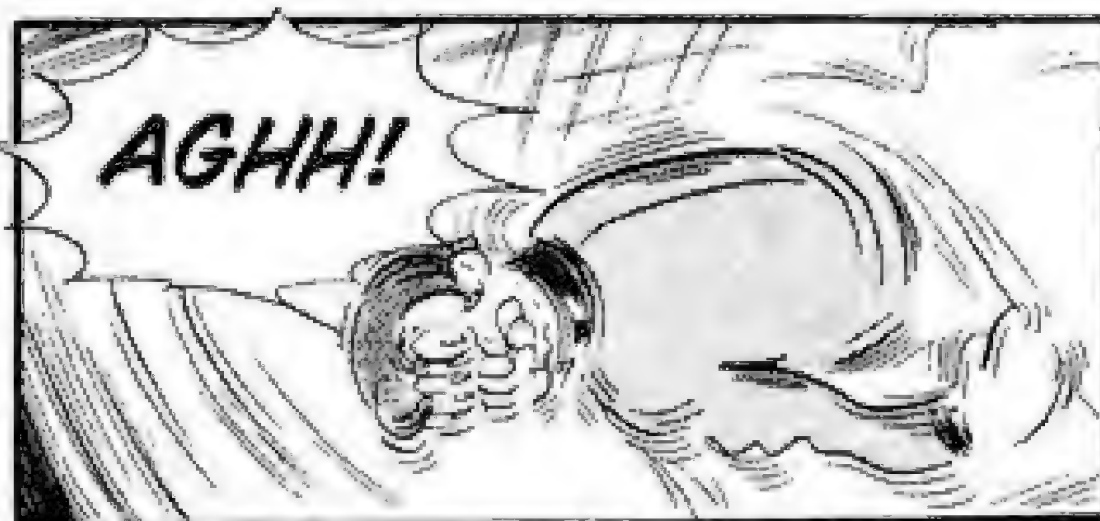


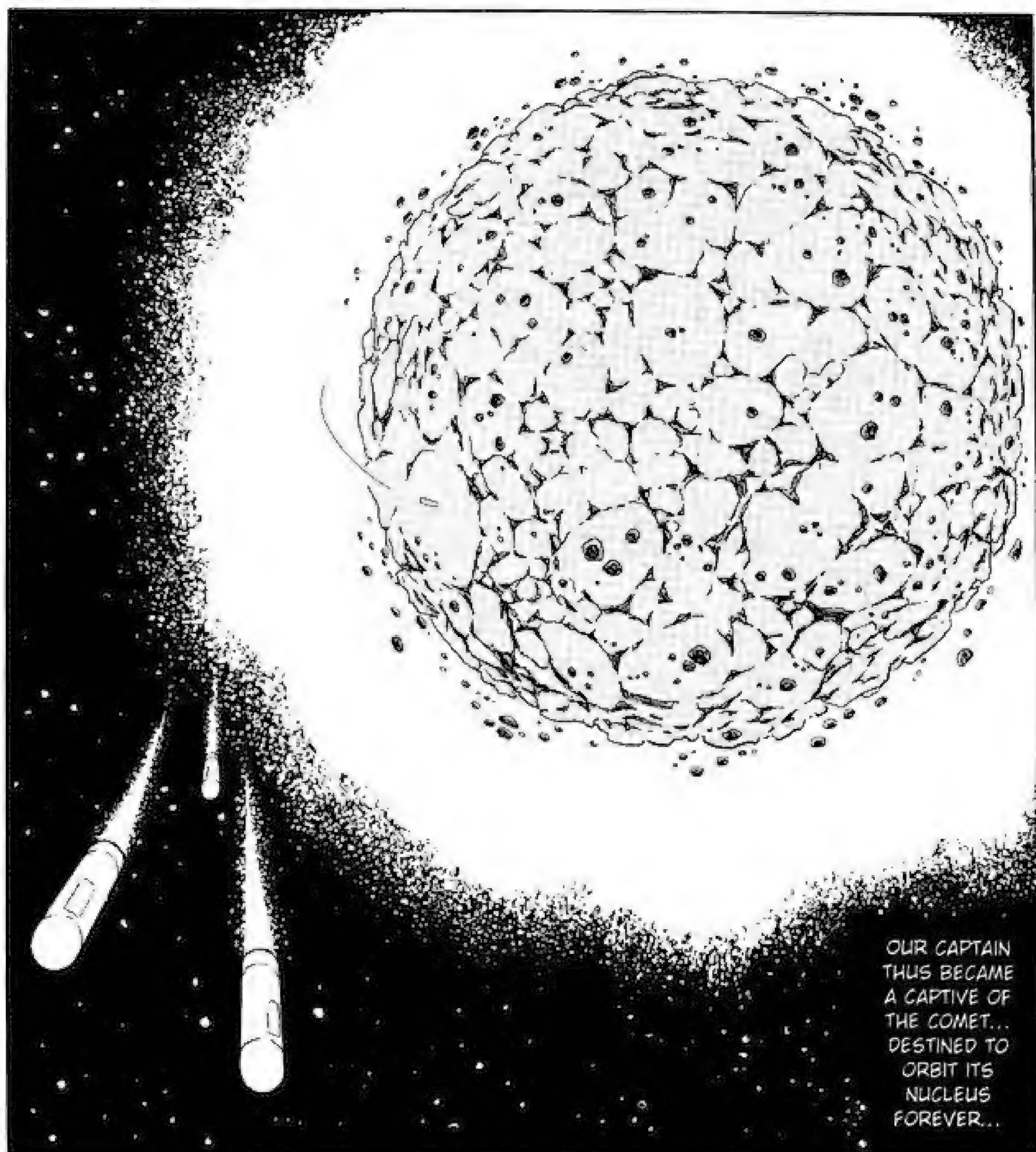
A COMET WITH A
NUCLEUS OF TWELVE
KILOMETERS IN
DIAMETER HAS A
POWERFUL
GRAVITATIONAL PULL.
WE MAY BE PULLED
INTO ITS ORBIT!

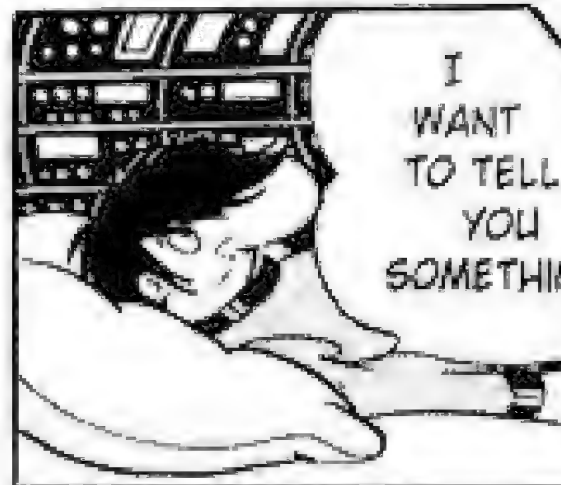
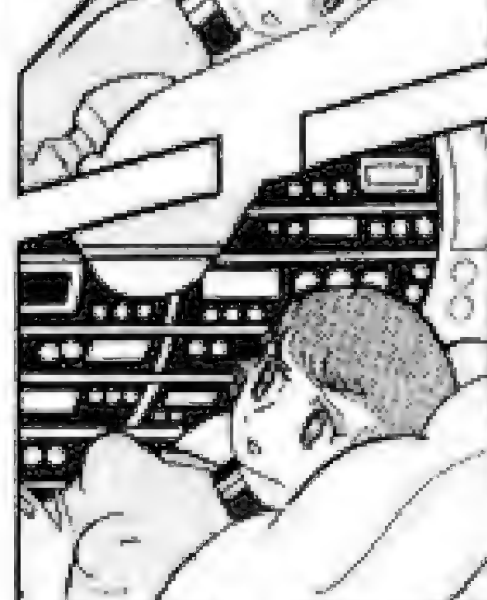
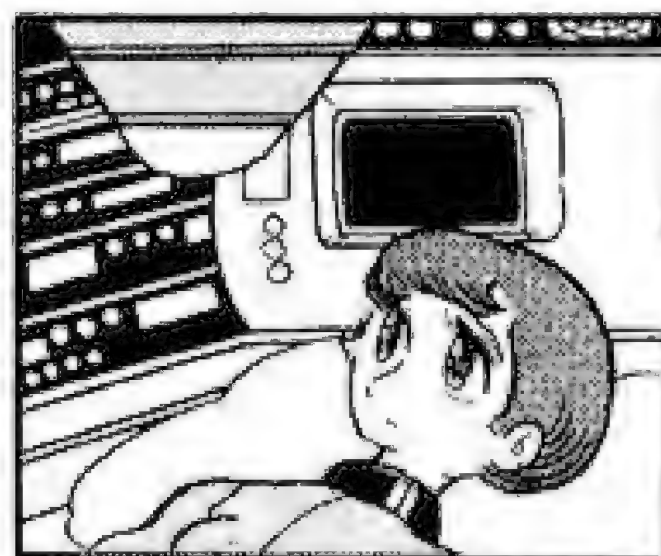


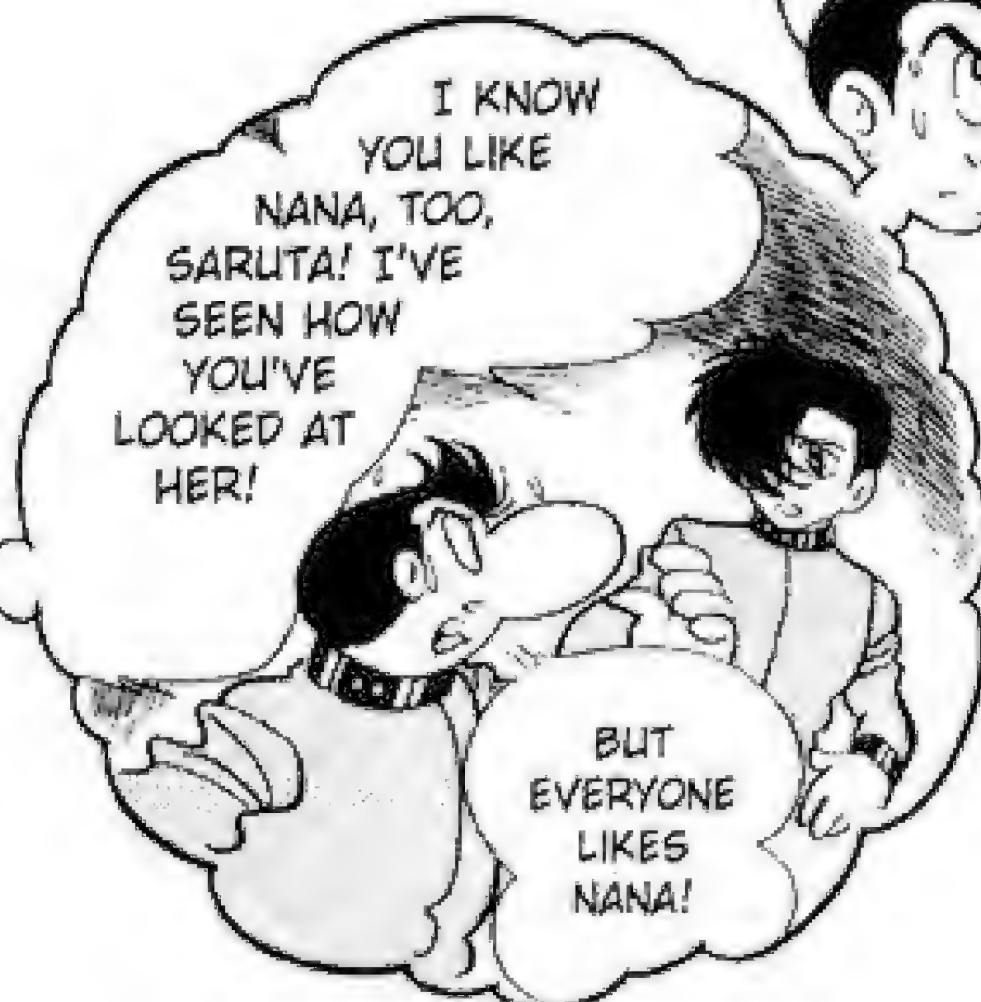


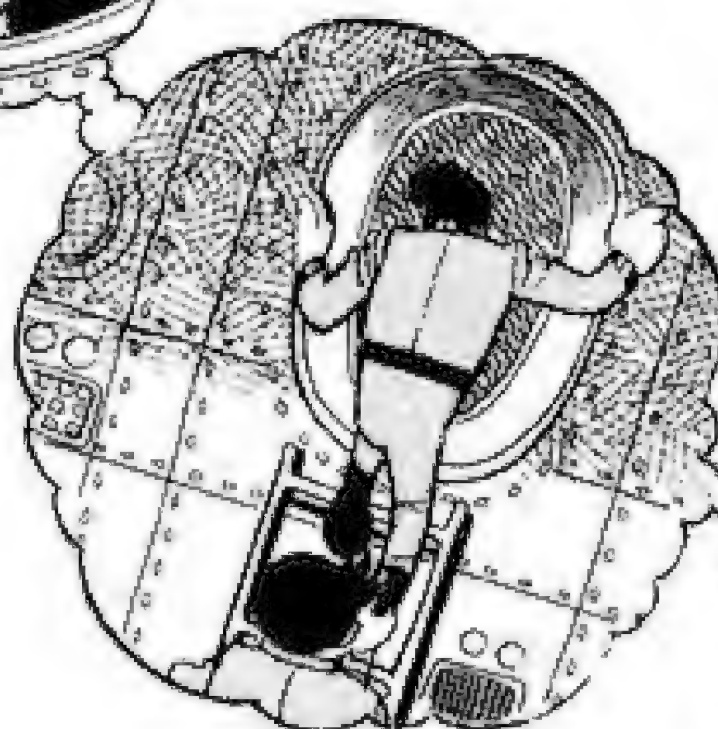
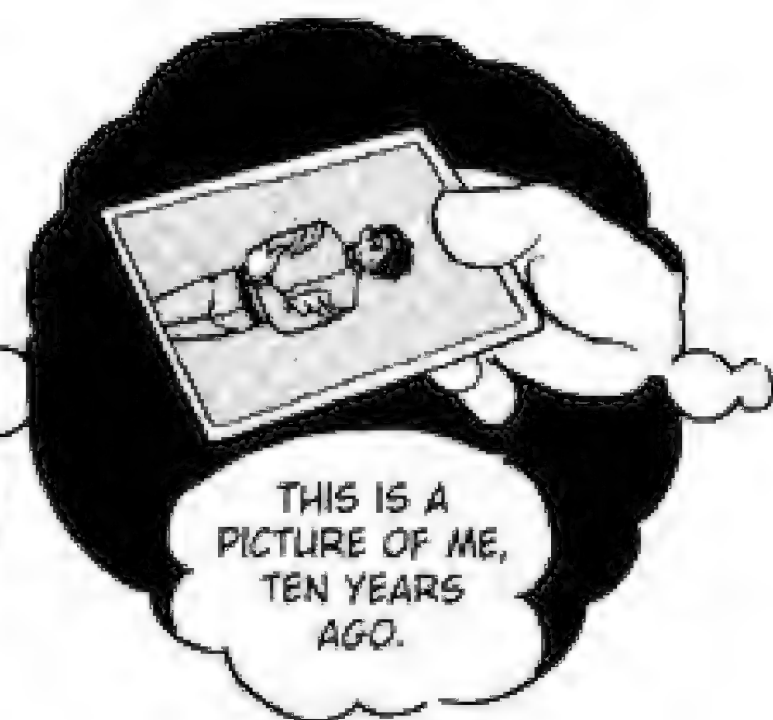


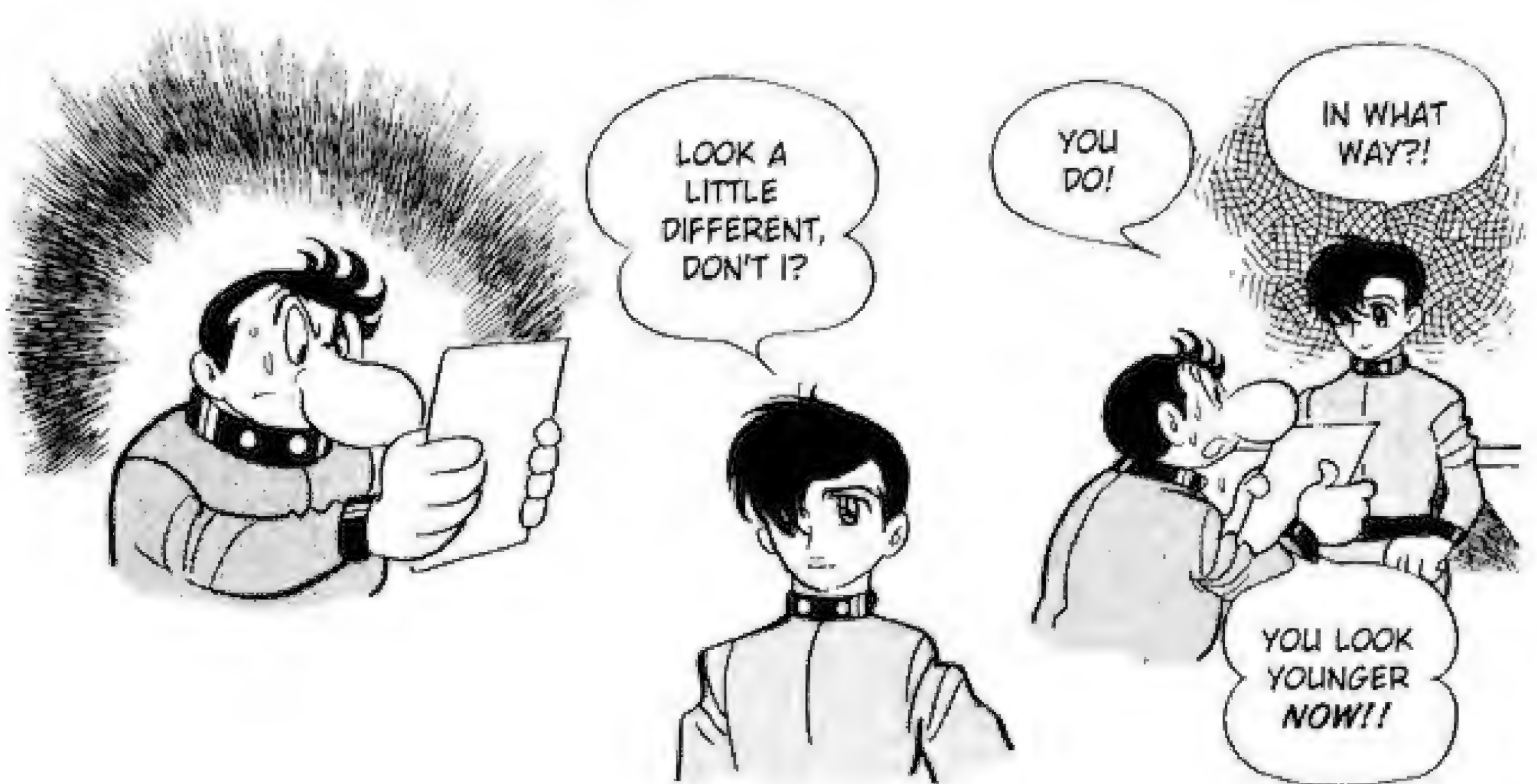






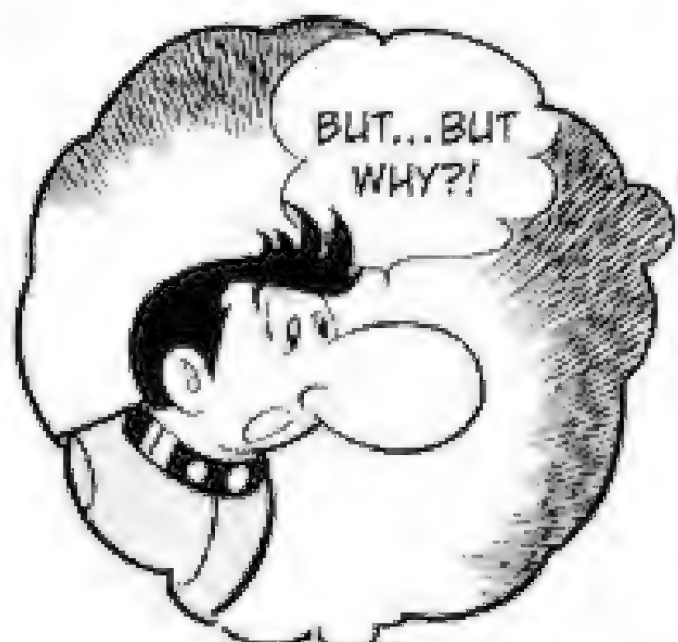








IT'S BECAUSE OF A DRUG
A WOMAN GAVE ME.
YOU SEE...TEN YEARS AGO
ON A CERTAIN PLANET I
WAS GIVEN A DRUG OF
IMMORTALITY, AND AFTER
DRINKING IT, MY BODY HAS
BEEN STEADILY GROWING
YOUNGER.



BUT...BUT
WHY?!



I GET YOUNGER
EVERY YEAR...
AND I KNOW IT.



INCREDIBLE!...
DOES THAT MEAN
YOU'LL TURN
INTO A CHILD
INSTEAD OF AN
OLD MAN?!

THAT'S
RIGHT...



YOU...YOU
LOOK
YOUNGER!

I
AM.



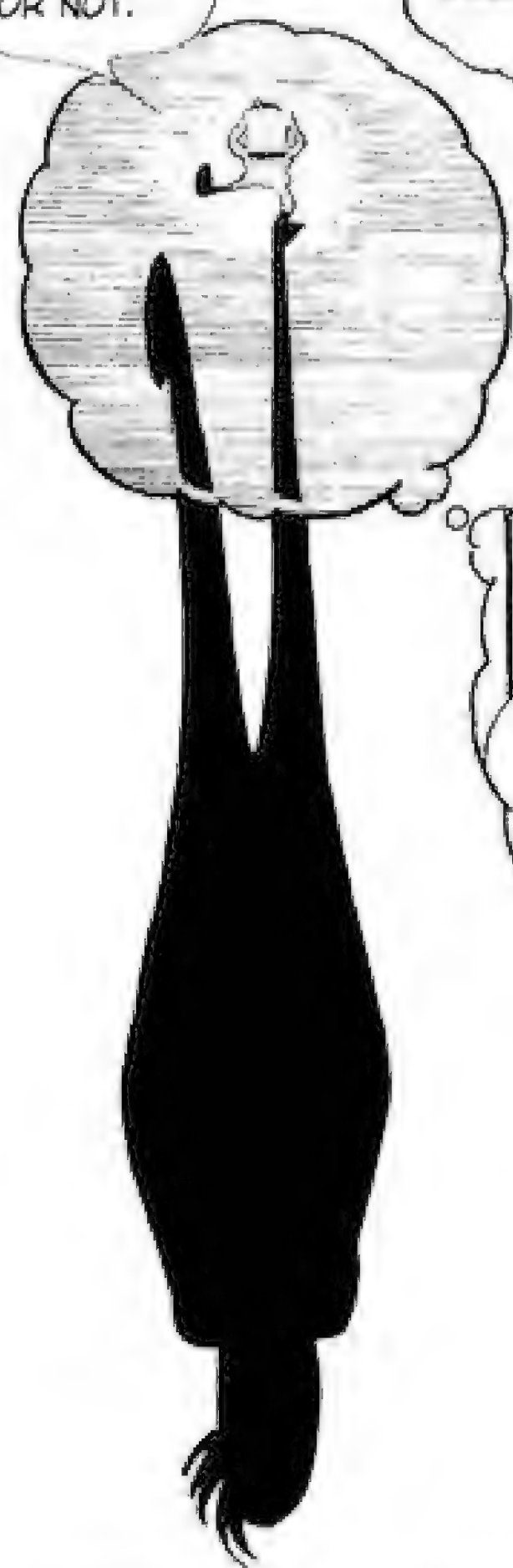
AND WHEN
THINK OF
IT, IT'S
FRIGHTENING...
I'M SCARED.

BUT THERE'S
NOTHING I
CAN DO
ABOUT IT. IT'S
DRIVING ME
MAD...

CAN YOU
UNDERSTAND NOW,
SARUTA, WHY THERE
WILL NEVER BE
ANYTHING BETWEEN
NANA AND ME?!

I DIDN'T
KNOW
WHETHER TO
BELIEVE HIM
OR NOT.

EVEN
AFTER WE
BEGAN OUR
JOURNEY...



DON'T TELL
ANYONE,
EVEN IF I
DIE! DON'T
TELL A
SINGLE
PERSON!



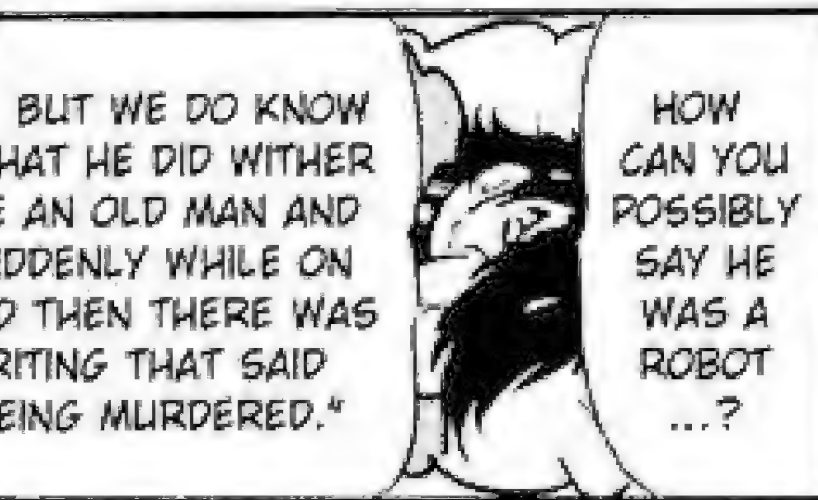
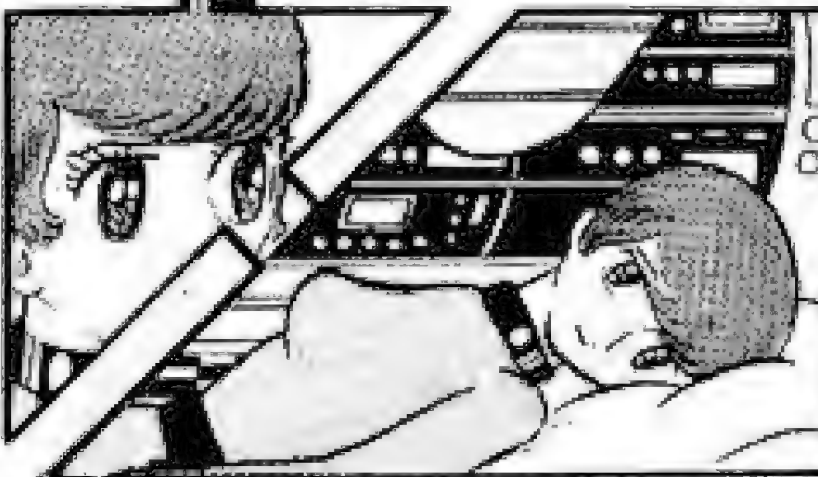
"AND YOU'RE
STILL WILLING TO
JOIN THIS CREW,
KNOWING WHAT
WILL HAPPEN TO
YOU?"

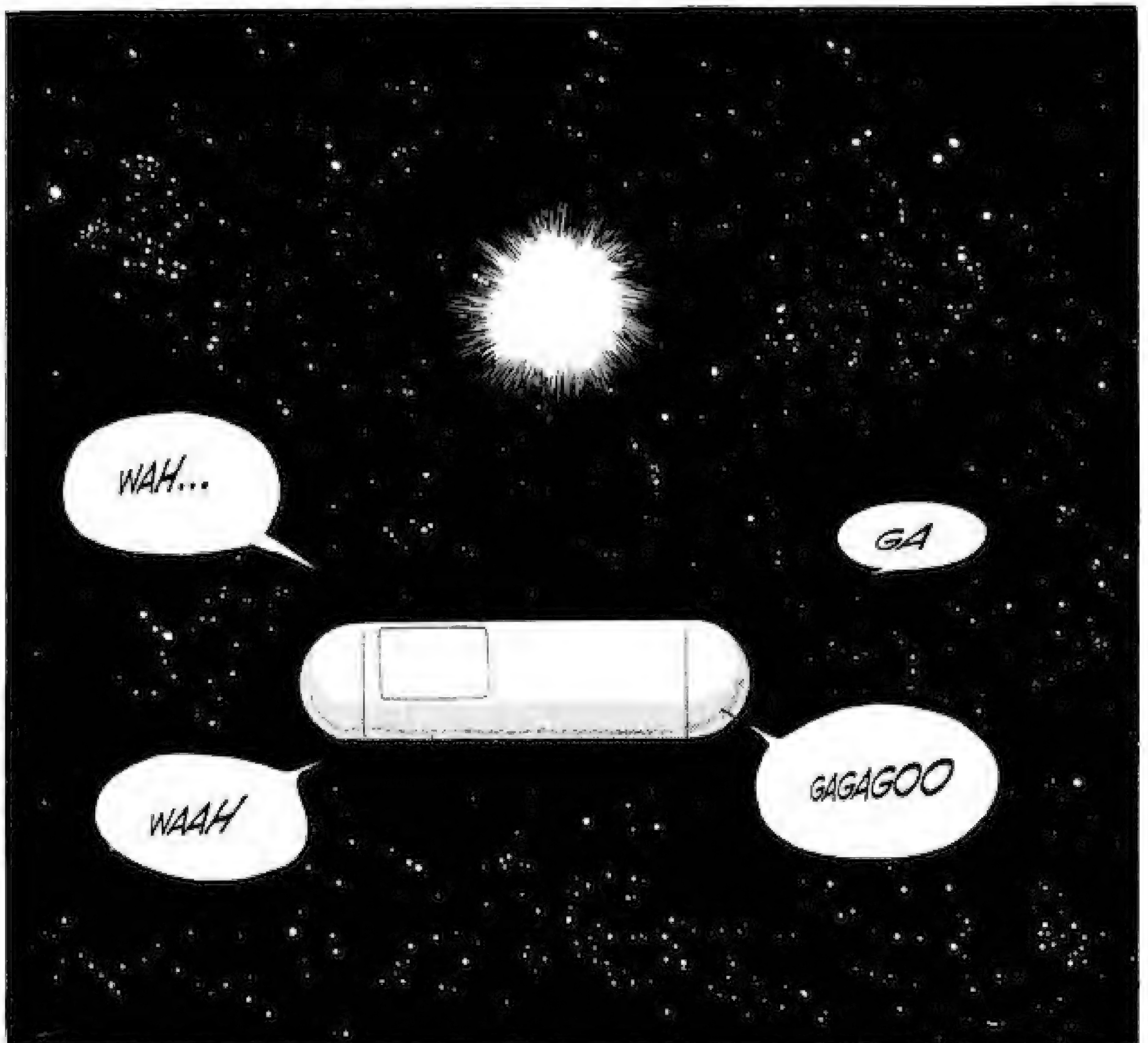
SURE.
IT'S MY JOB.
AND BESIDES,
I'M THE
NAVIGATOR.

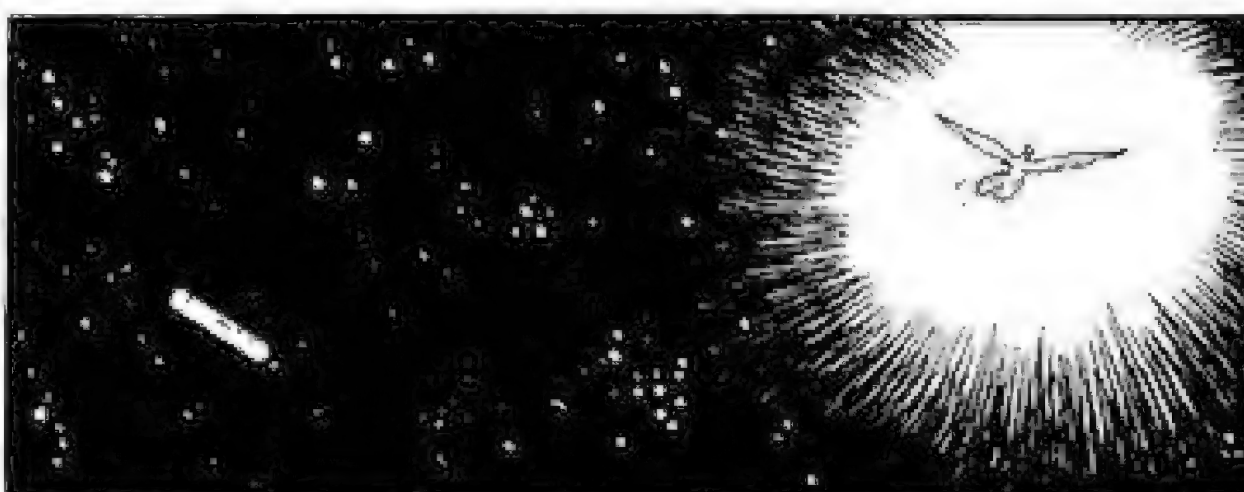
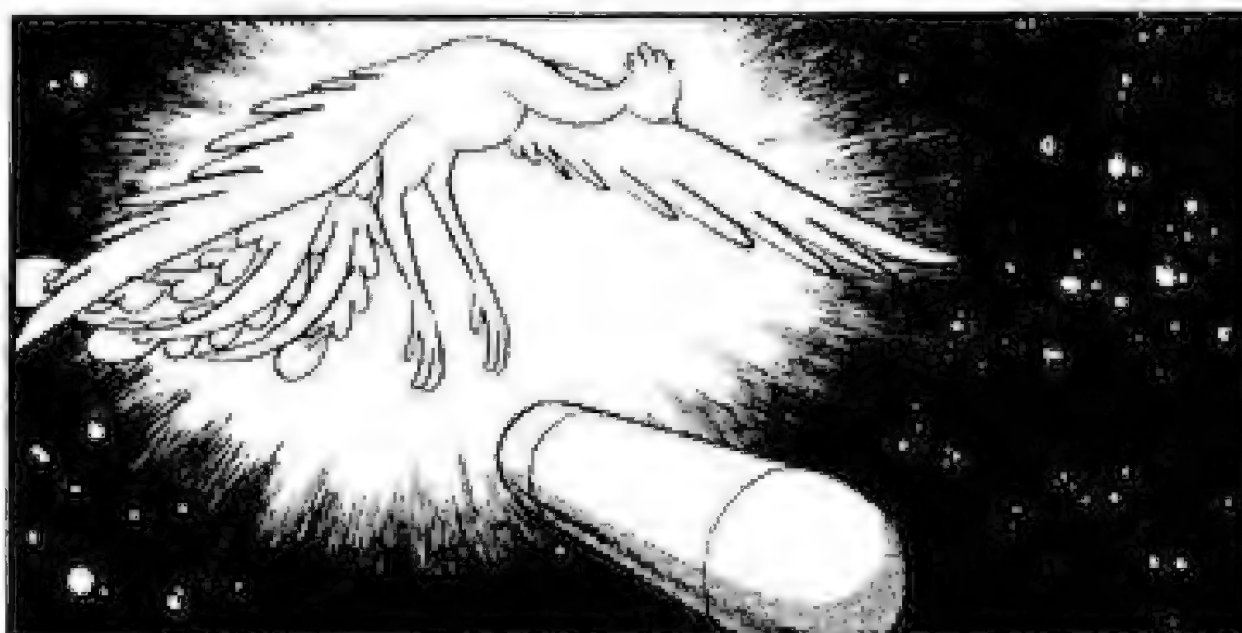
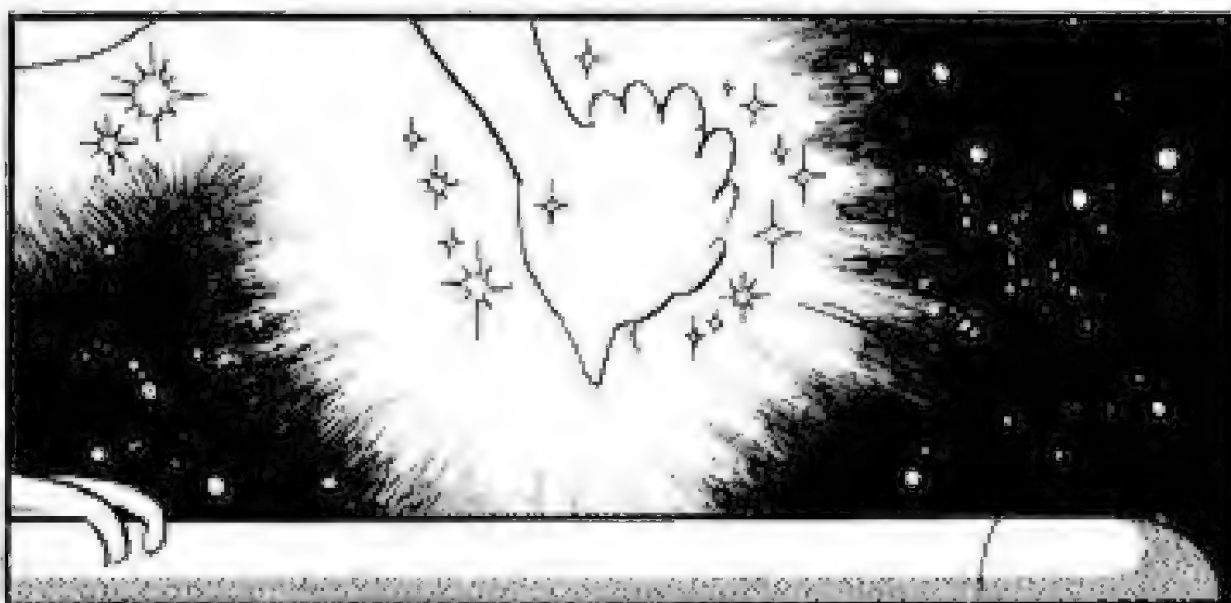
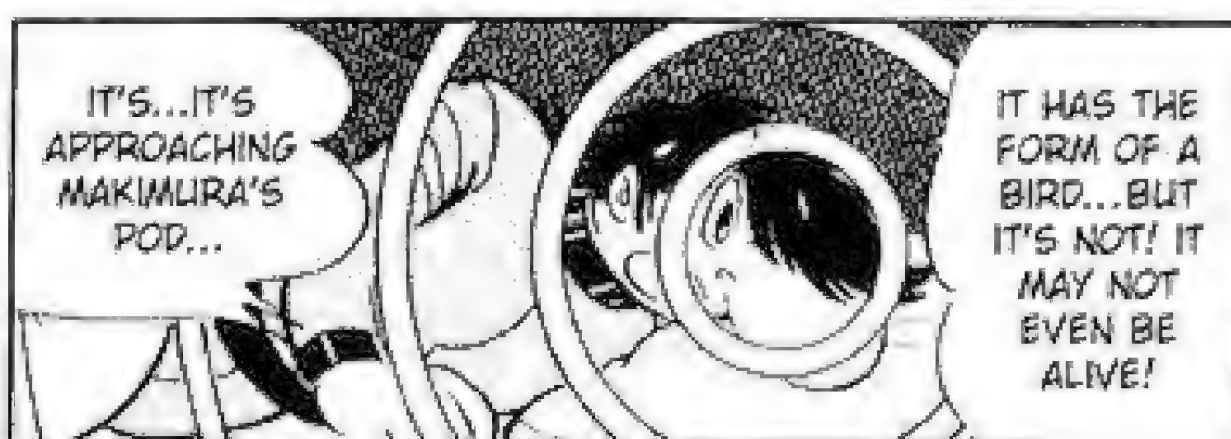


BUT...
SUPPOSE,
BEFORE WE
REACH THE
EARTH...

DON'T WORRY.
I'LL BE ALL
RIGHT.
I'LL WORK
SOMETHING
OUT SO I CAN
CONTINUE.





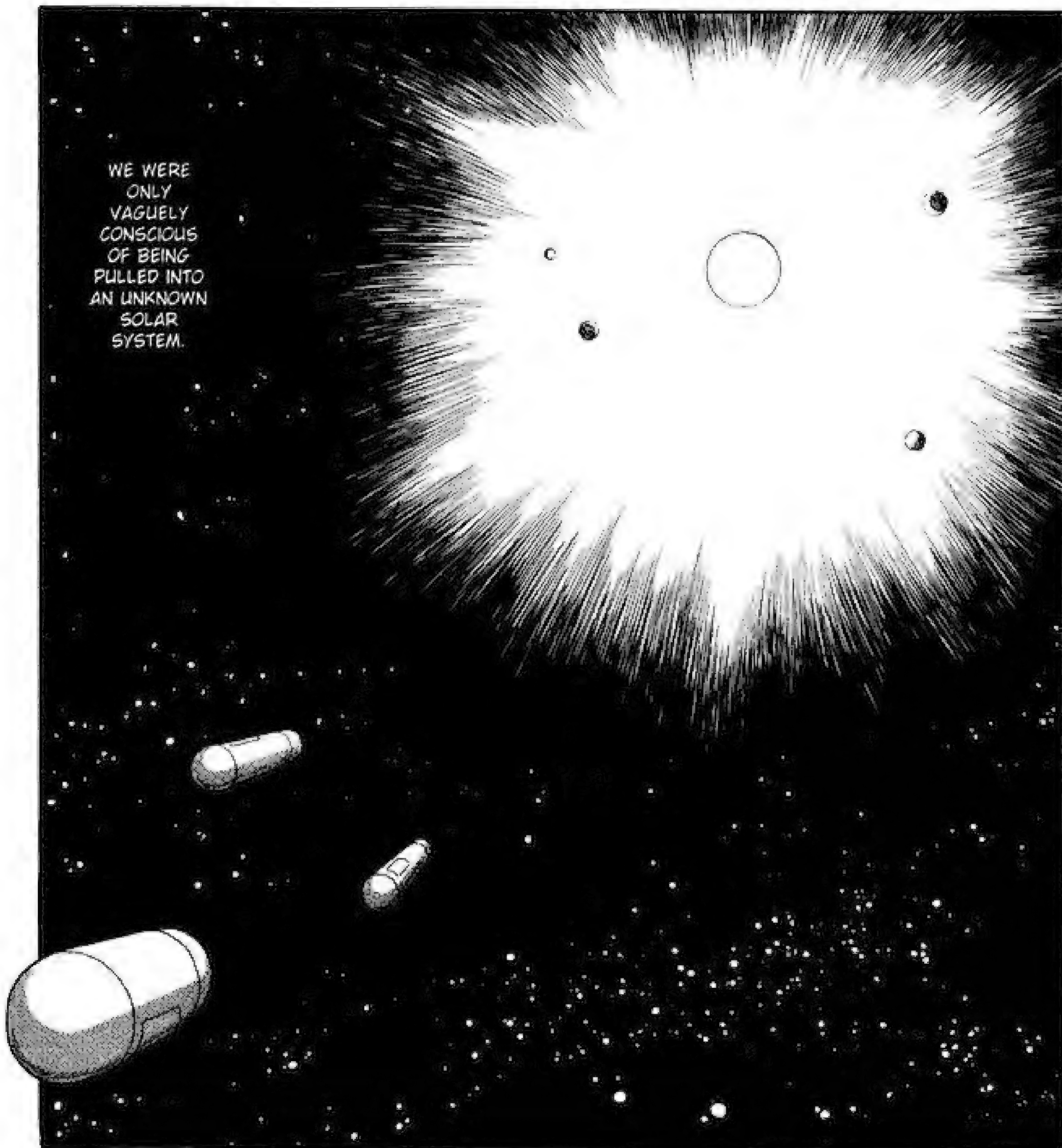


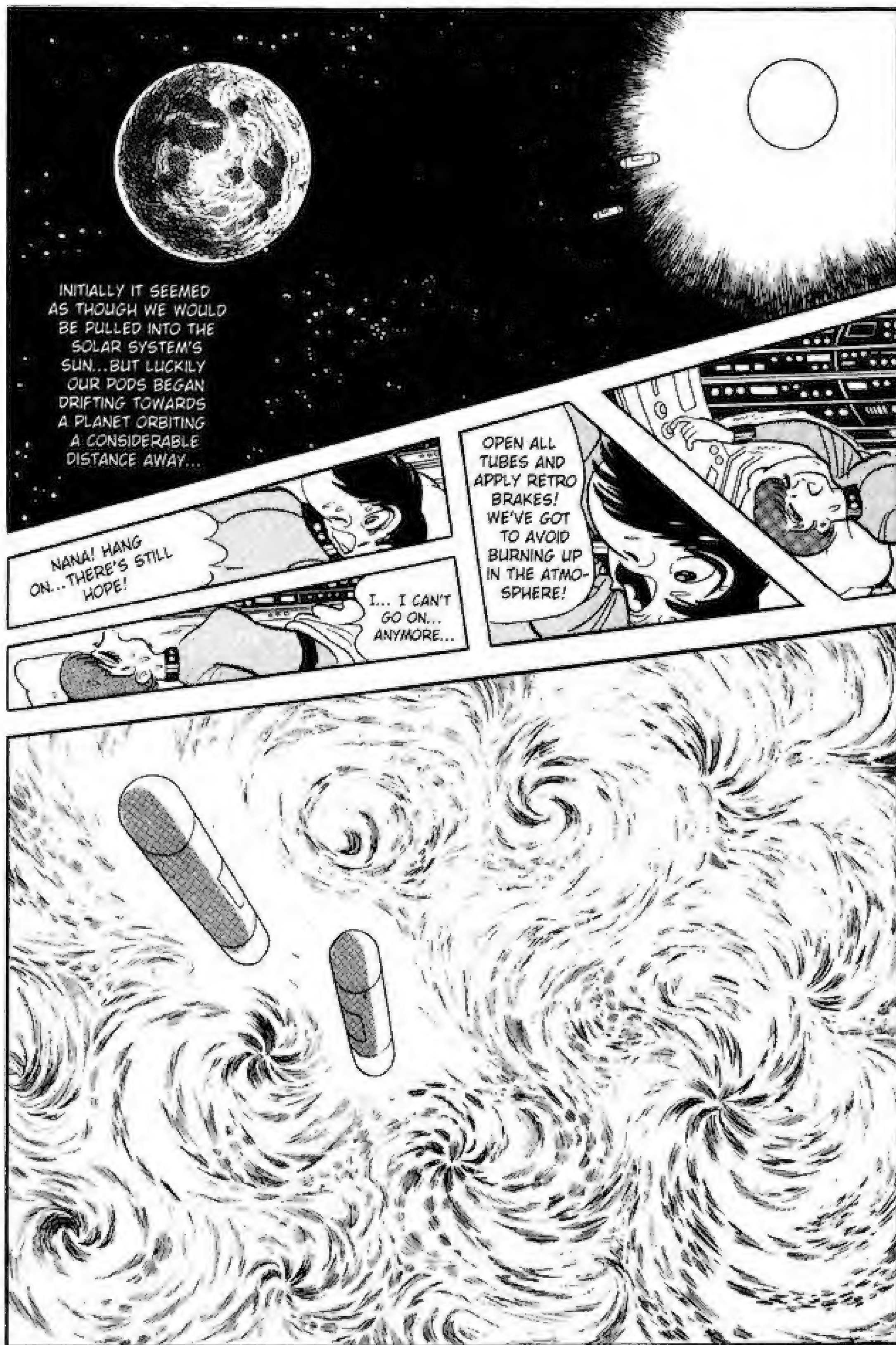


BOTH OF US
FINALLY FACED THE
UNTHINKABLE...
OUR FOOD SUPPLY
GAVE OUT.
WE LASTED FOR
TEN DAYS, BUT
THEN NANA'S
VOICE GRADUALLY
BEGAN TO
WEAKEN, AND
OVER THE MIKE
I COULD TELL SHE
WAS FIGHTING FOR
SURVIVAL.



WE WERE
ONLY
VAGUELY
CONSCIOUS
OF BEING
PULLED INTO
AN UNKNOWN
SOLAR
SYSTEM.



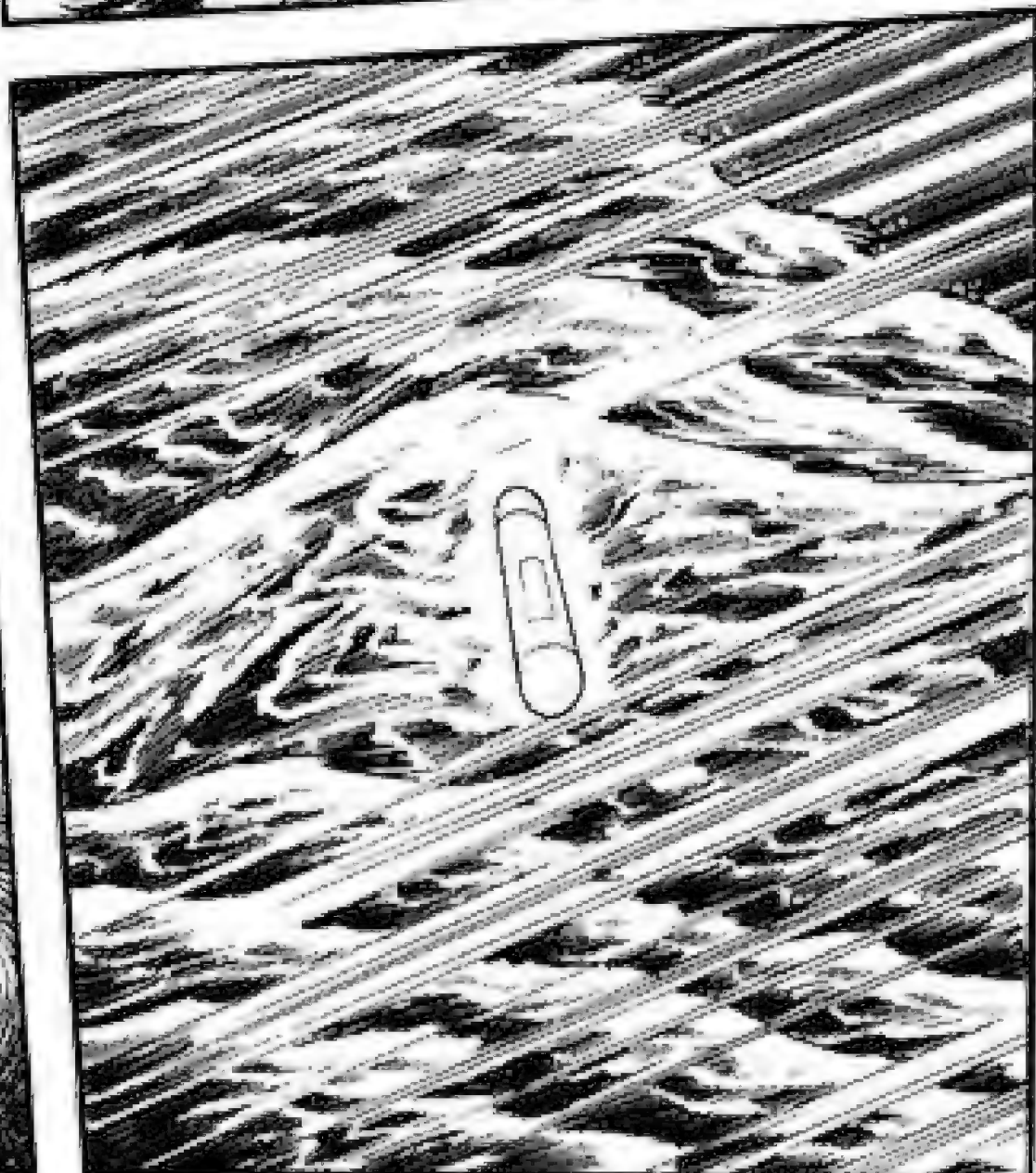
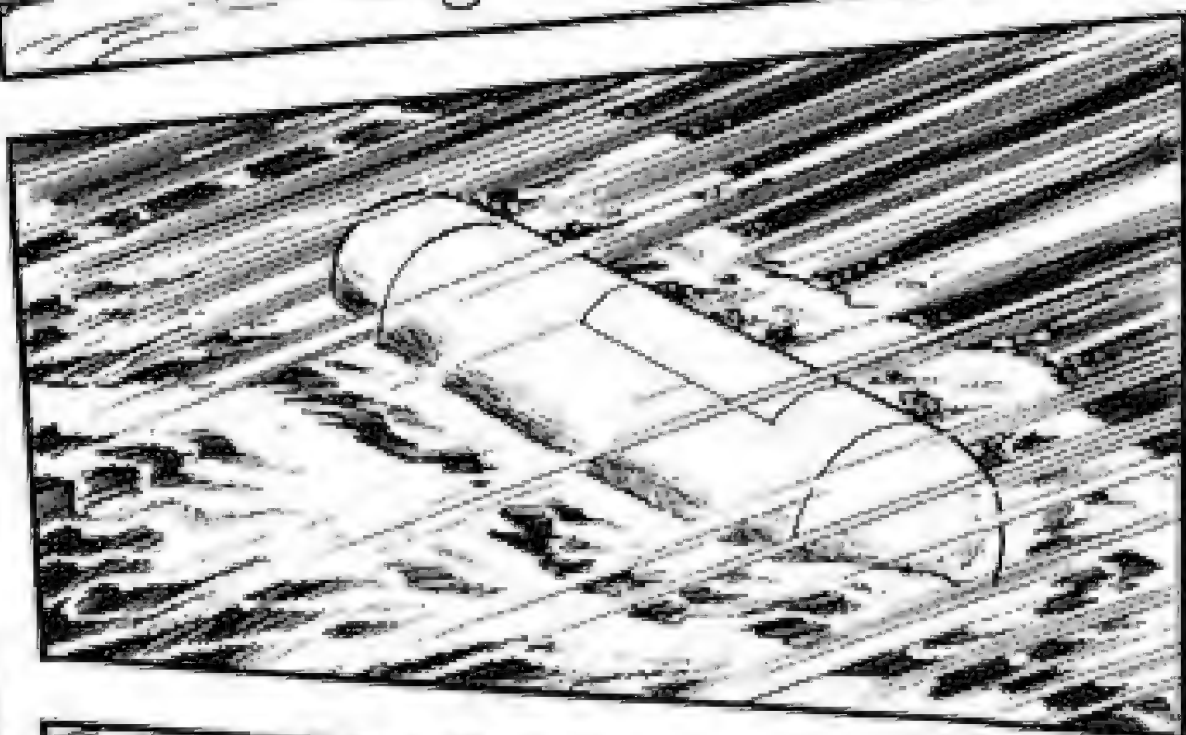


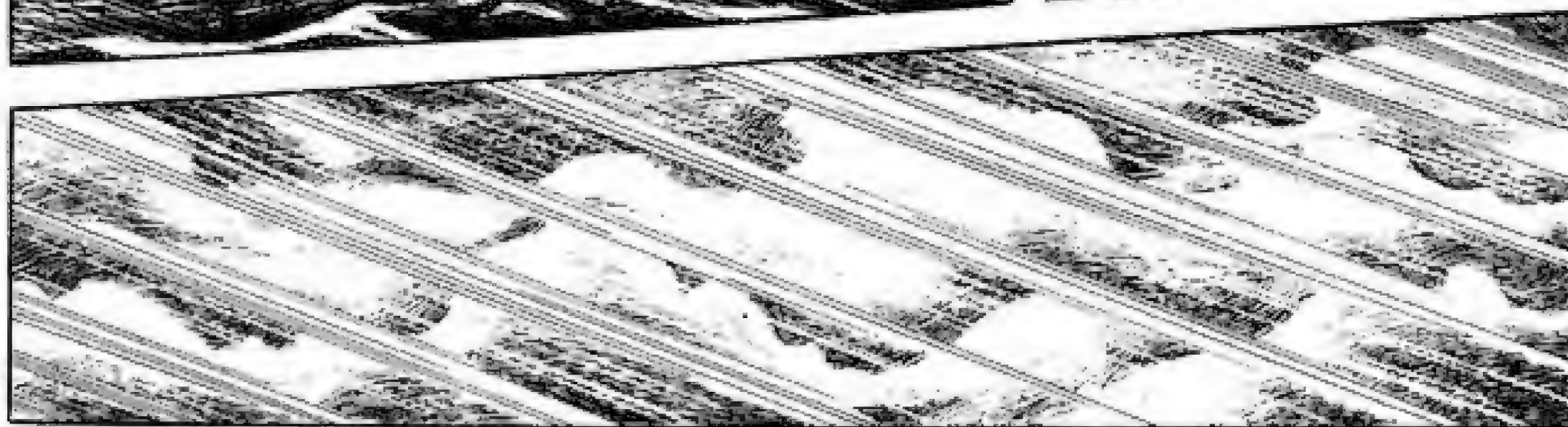
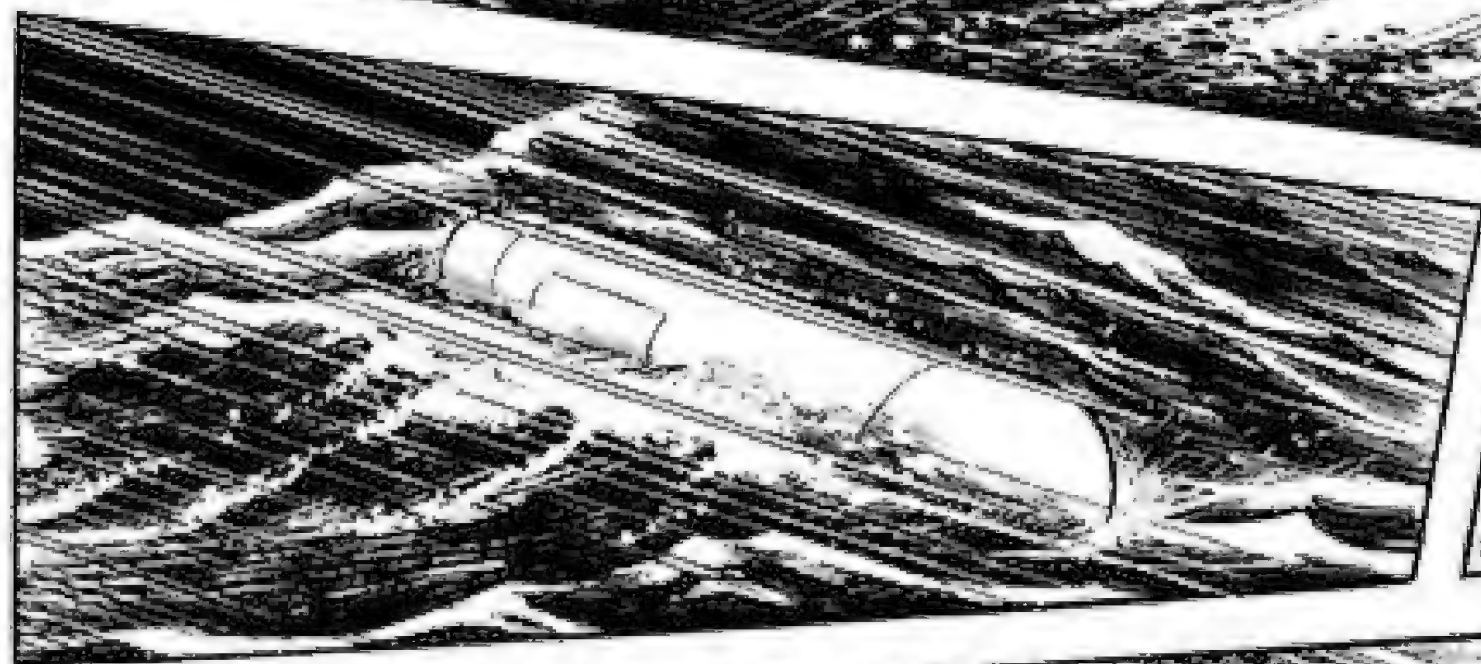
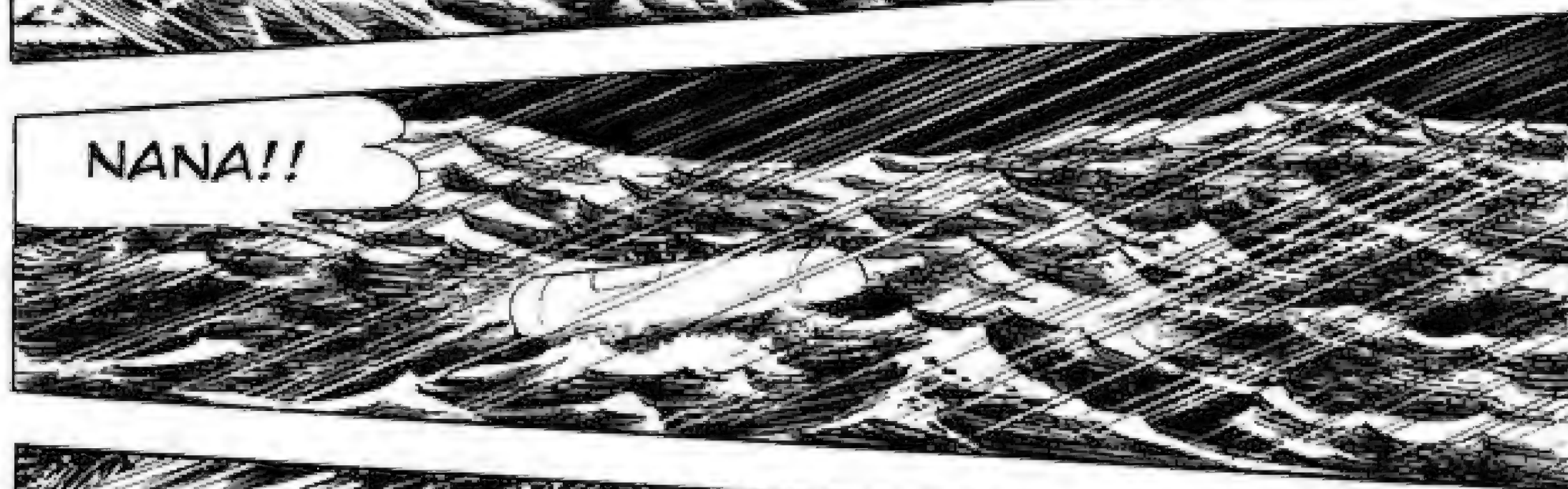
INITIALLY IT SEEMED
AS THOUGH WE WOULD
BE PULLED INTO THE
SOLAR SYSTEM'S
SUN...BUT LUCKILY
OUR PODS BEGAN
DRIFTING TOWARDS
A PLANET ORBITING
A CONSIDERABLE
DISTANCE AWAY...

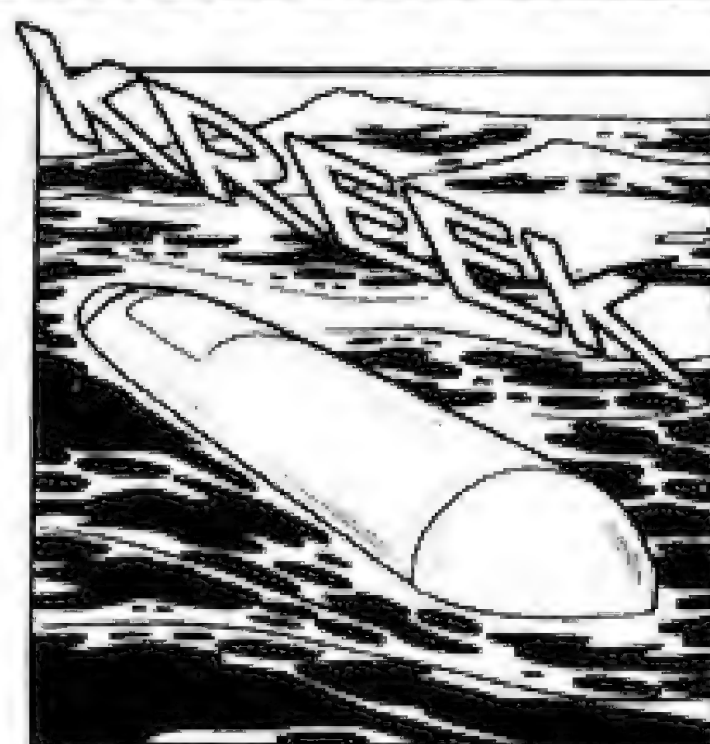
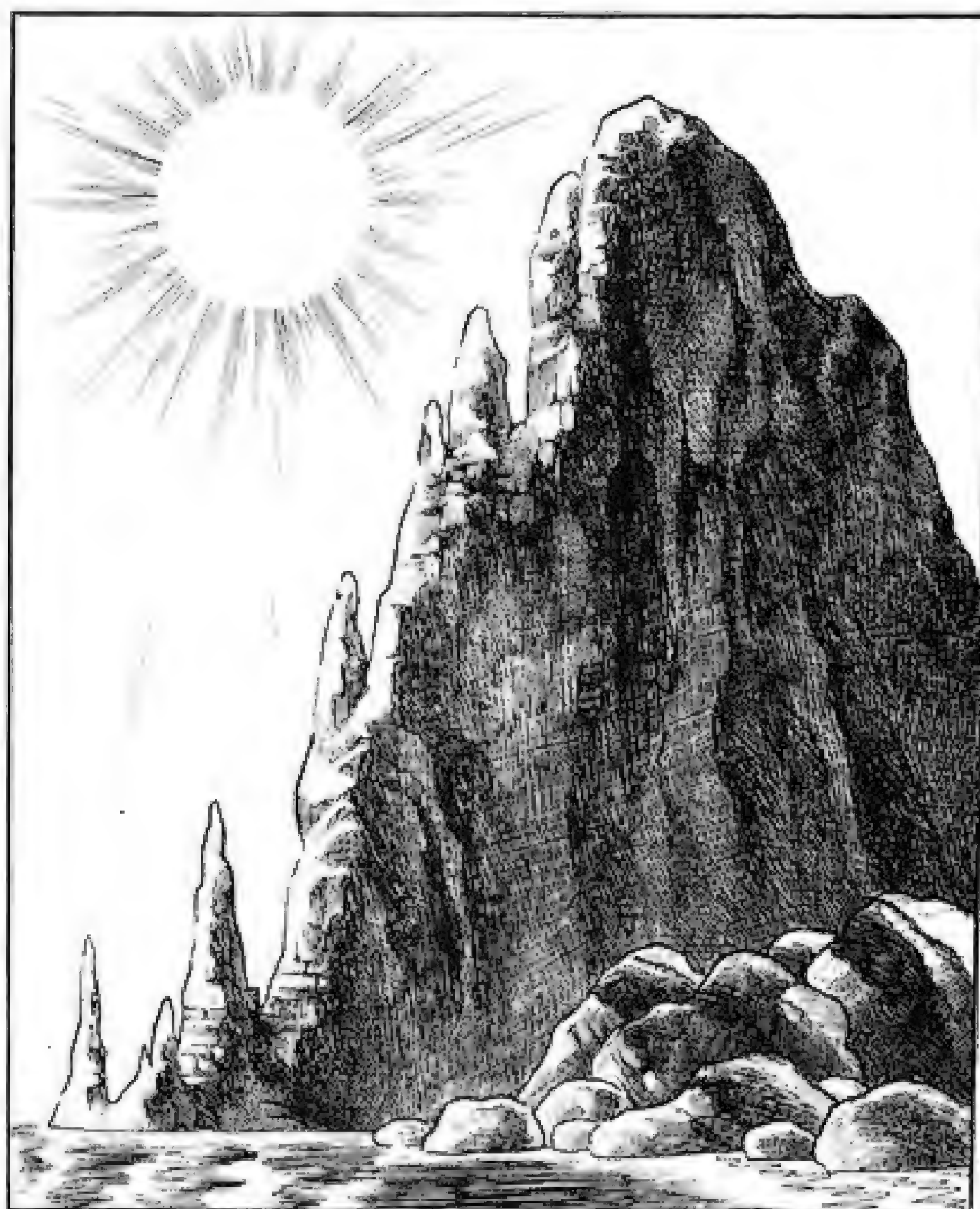
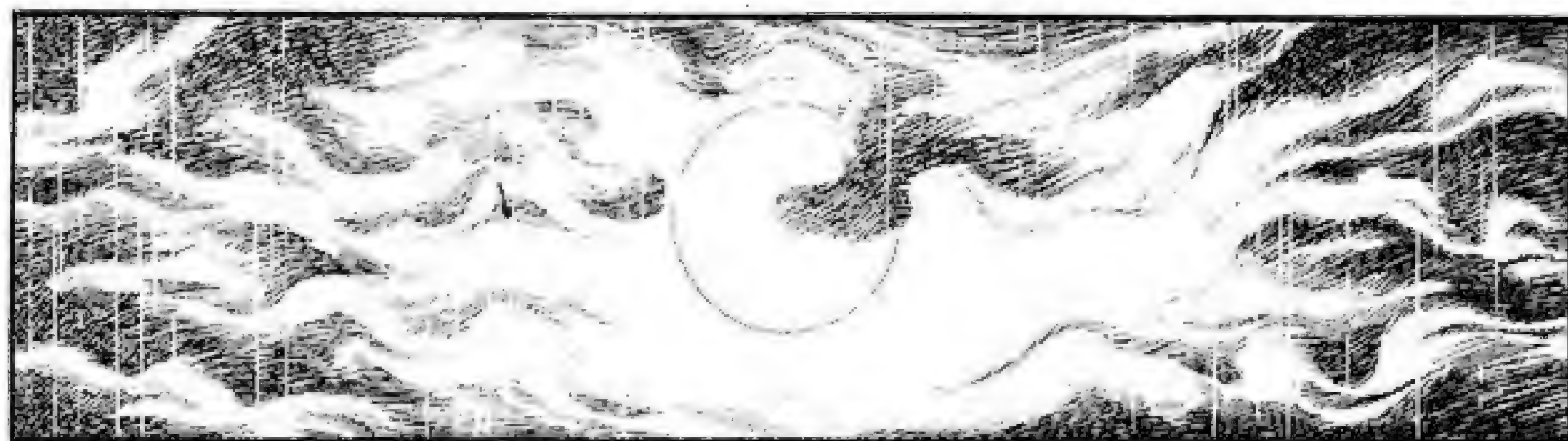
NANA! HANG
ON...THERE'S STILL
HOPE!

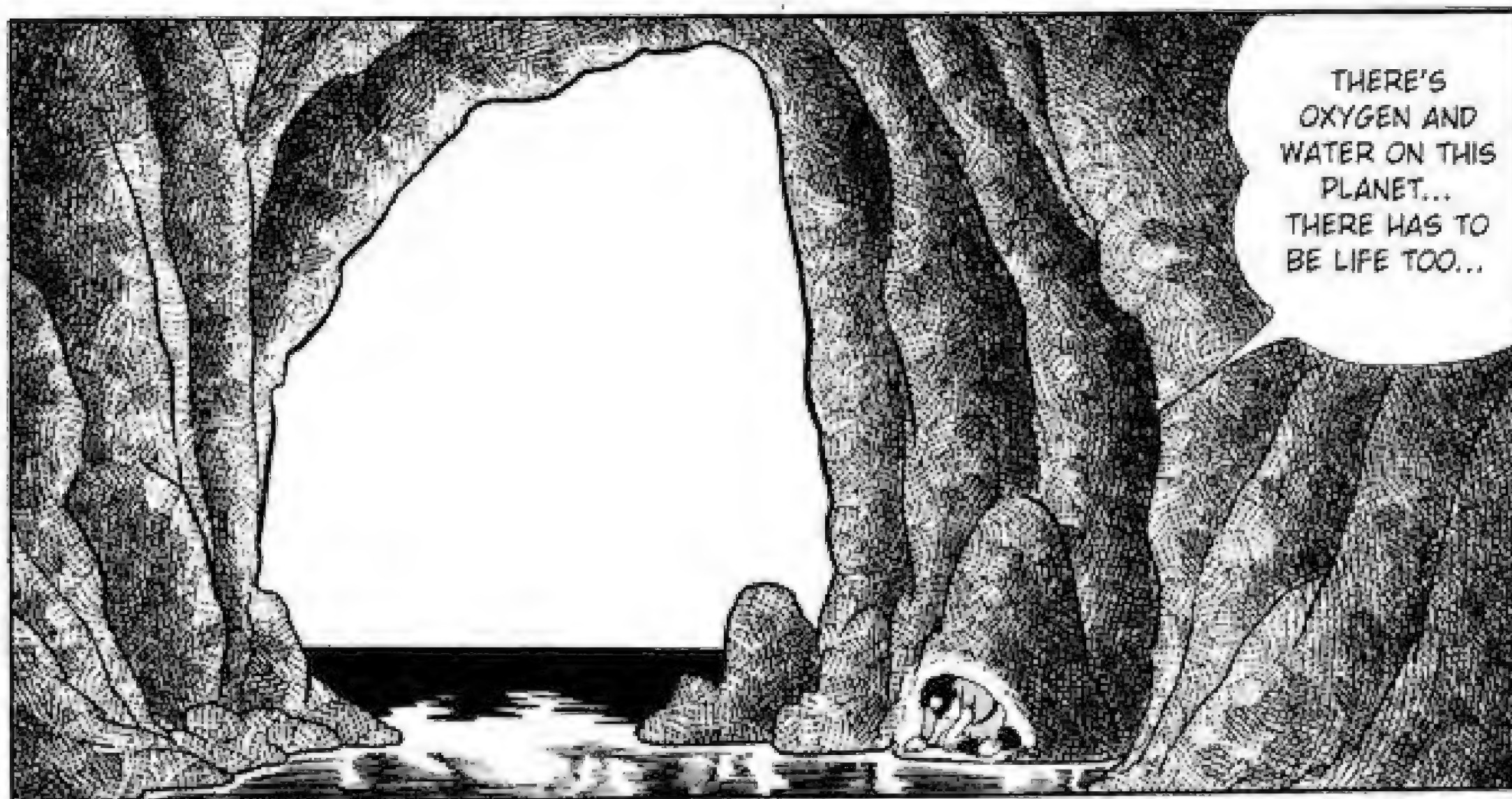
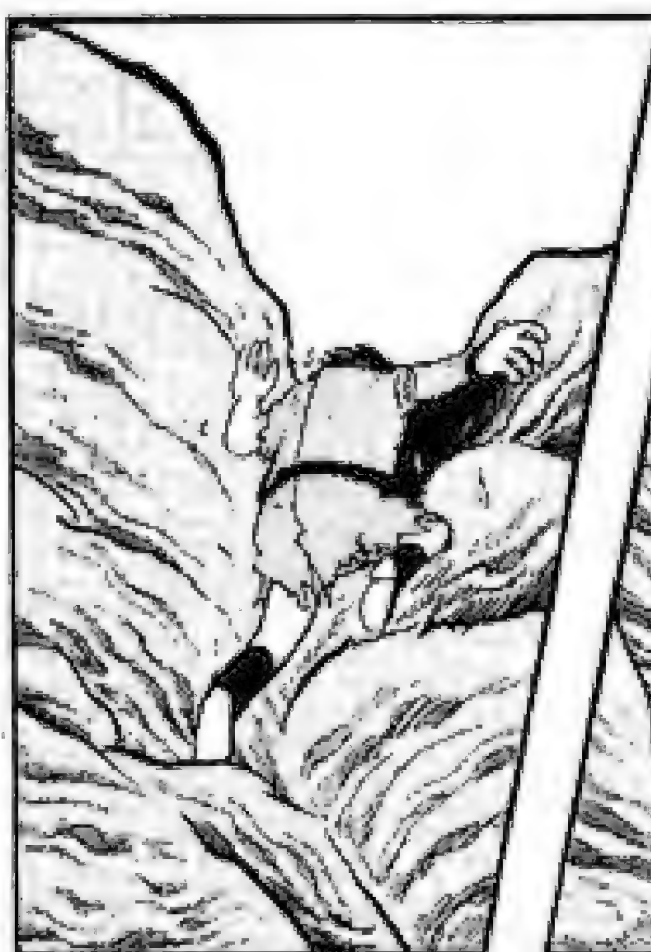
I... I CAN'T
GO ON...
ANYMORE...

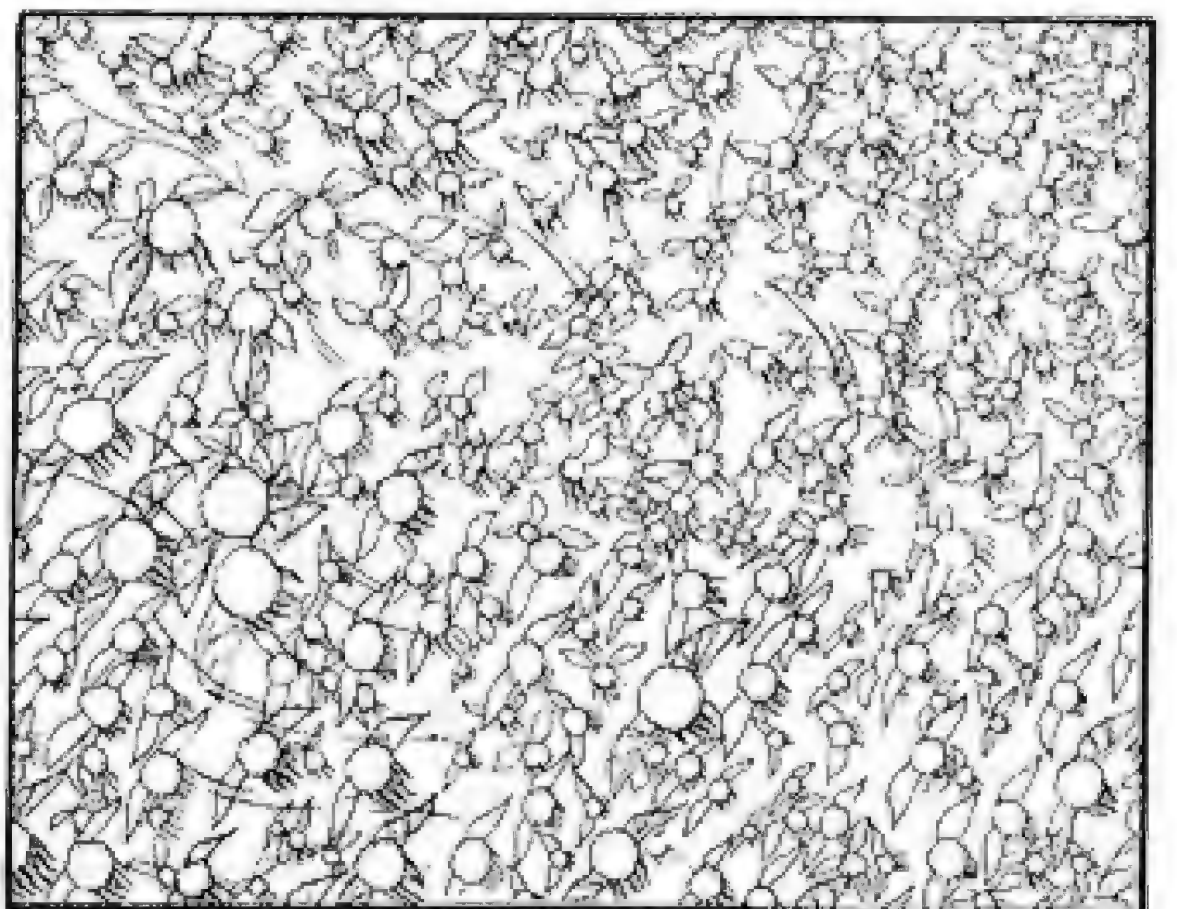
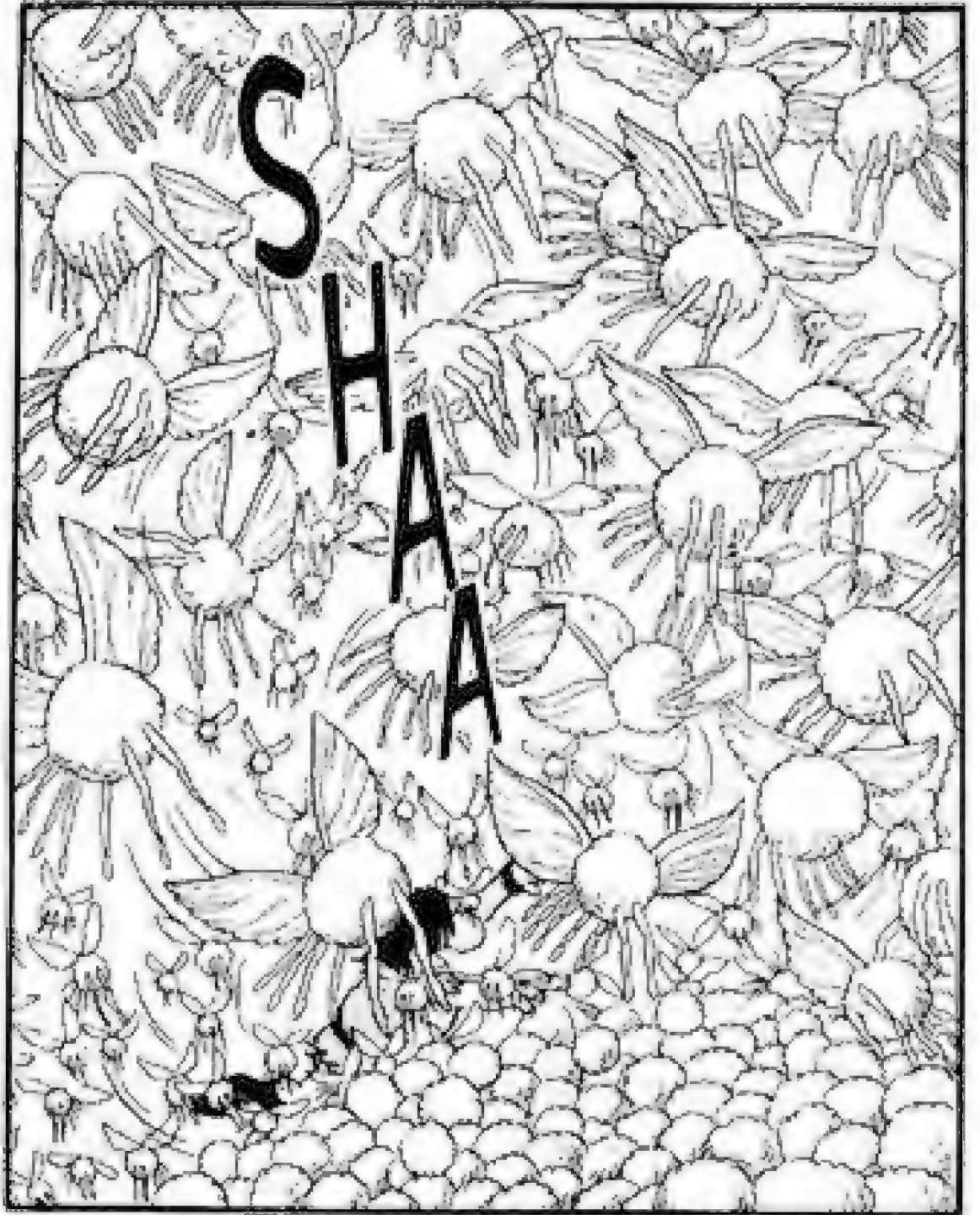
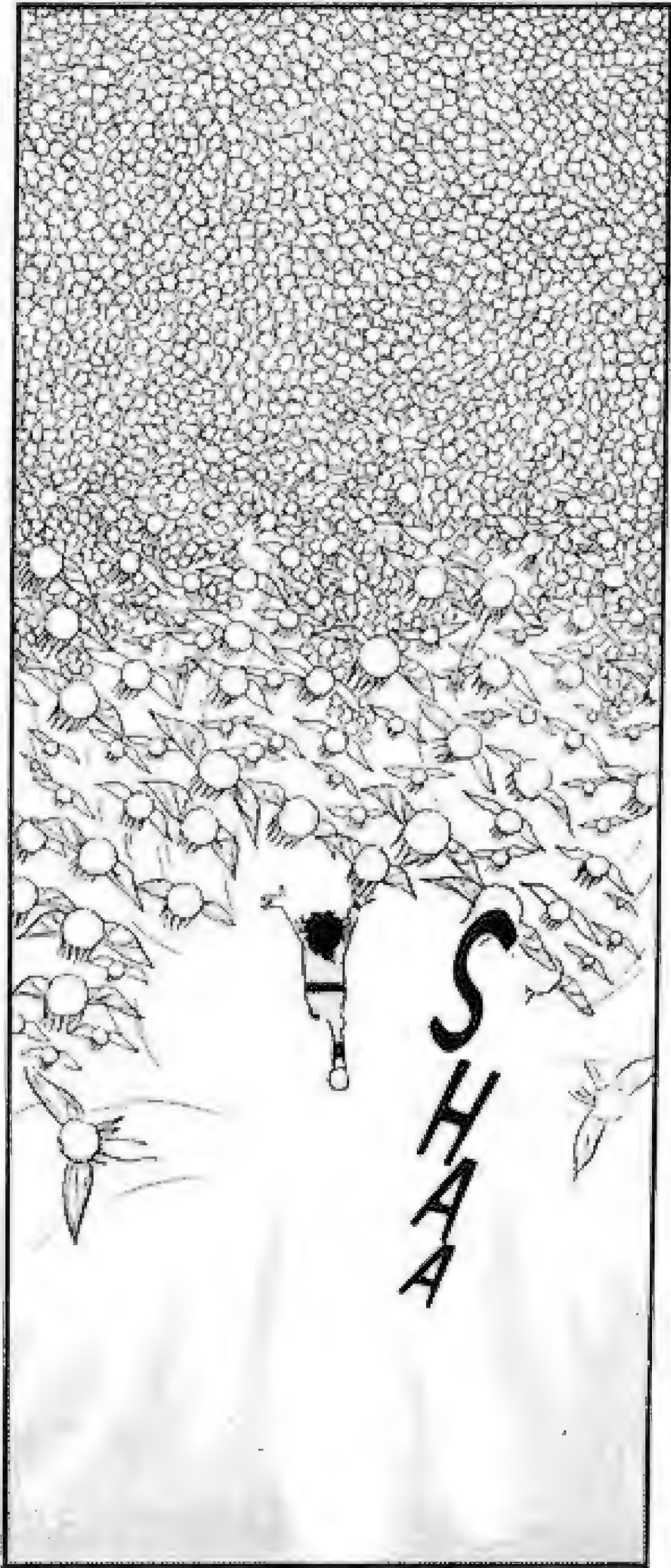
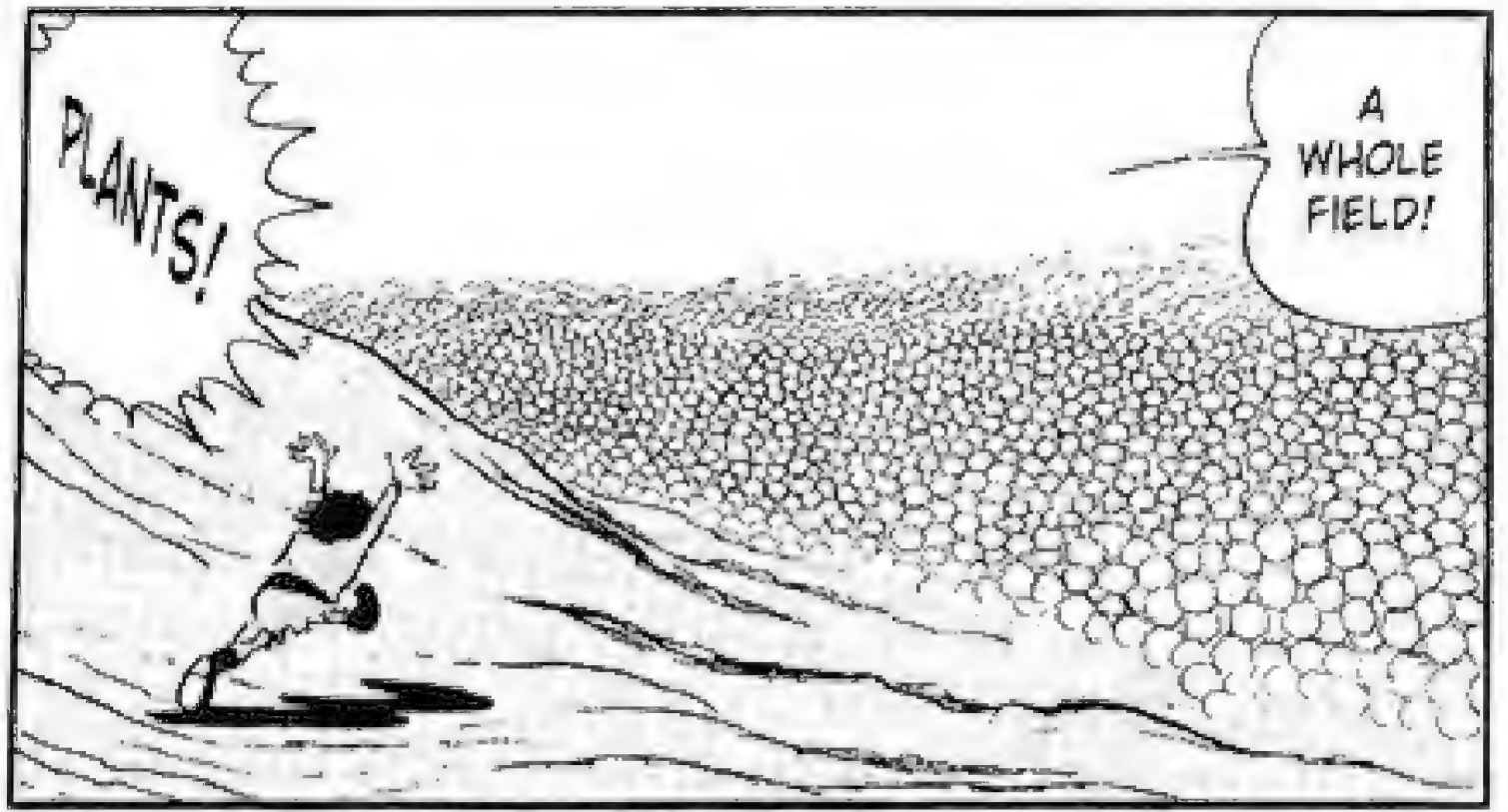
OPEN ALL
TUBES AND
APPLY RETRO
BRAKES!
WE'VE GOT
TO AVOID
BURNING UP
IN THE ATMO-
SPHERE!

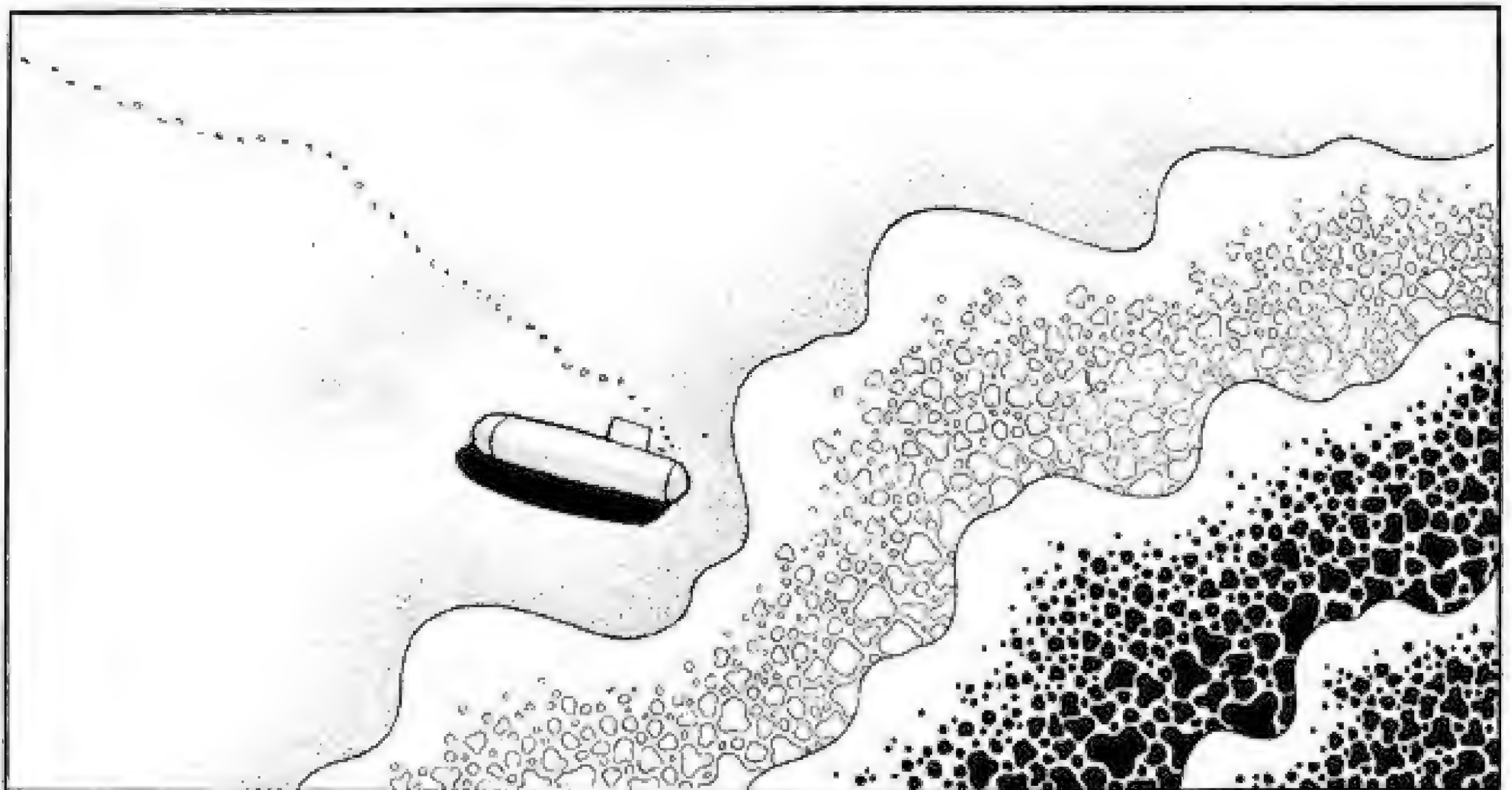
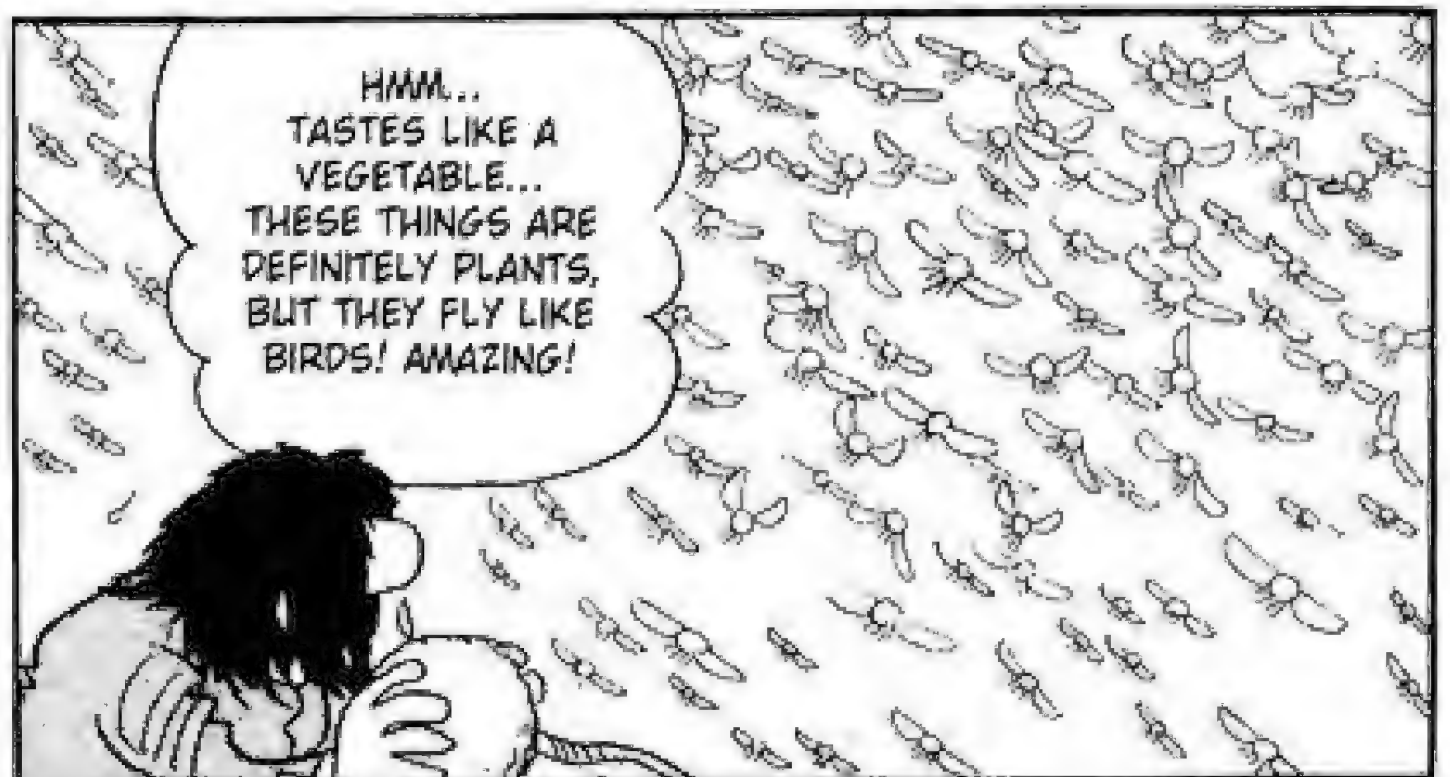
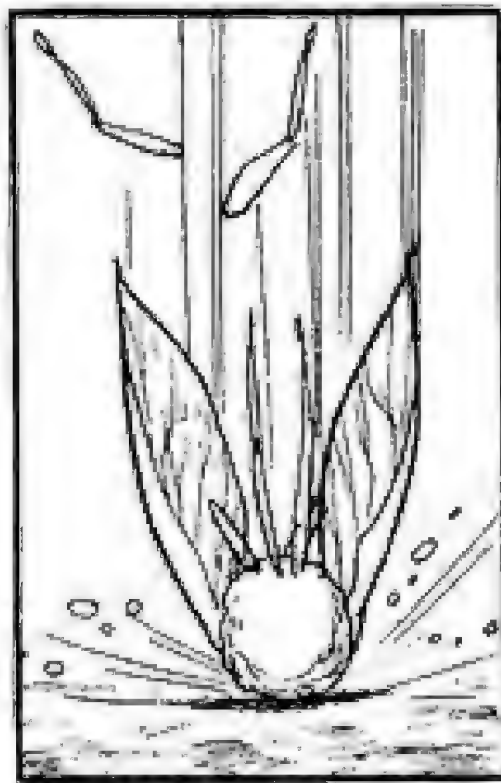
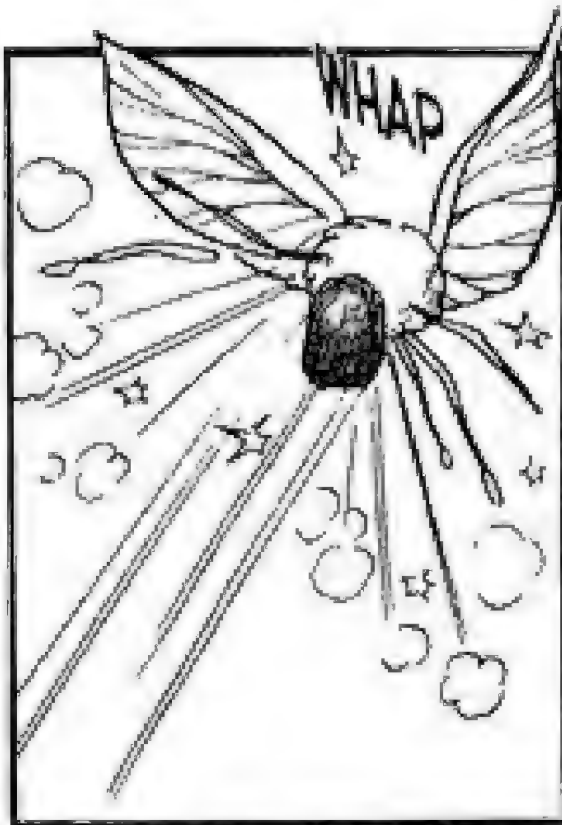


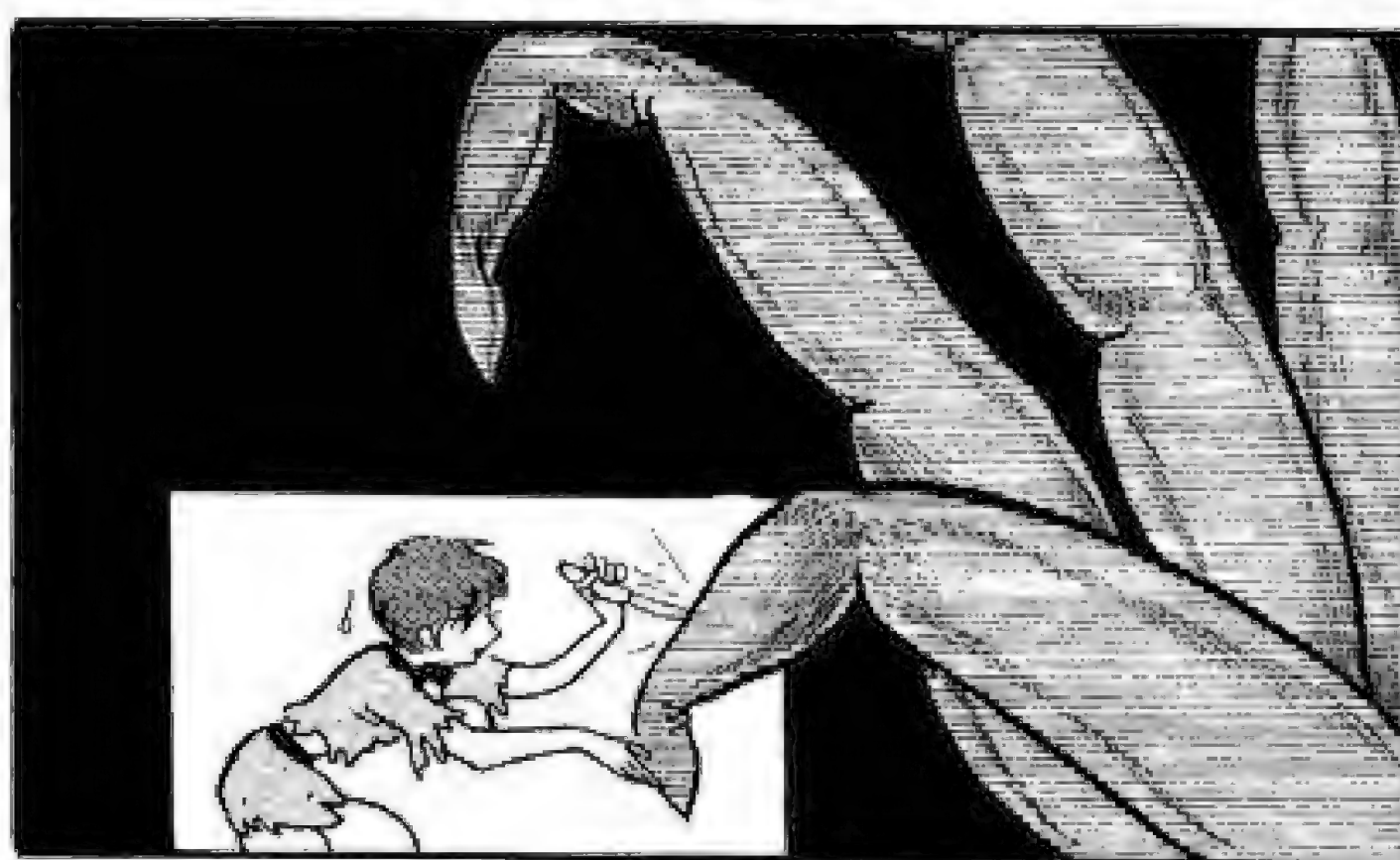
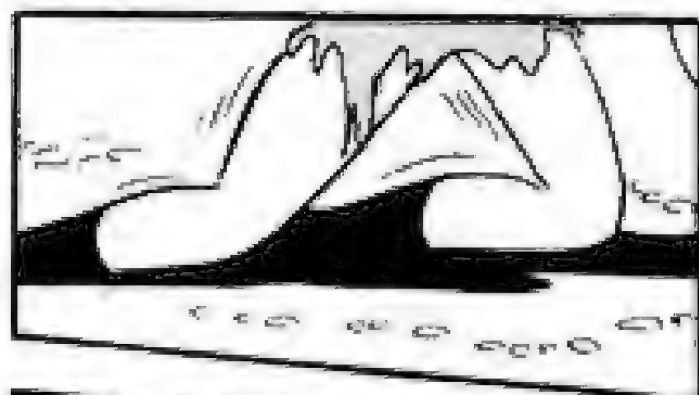
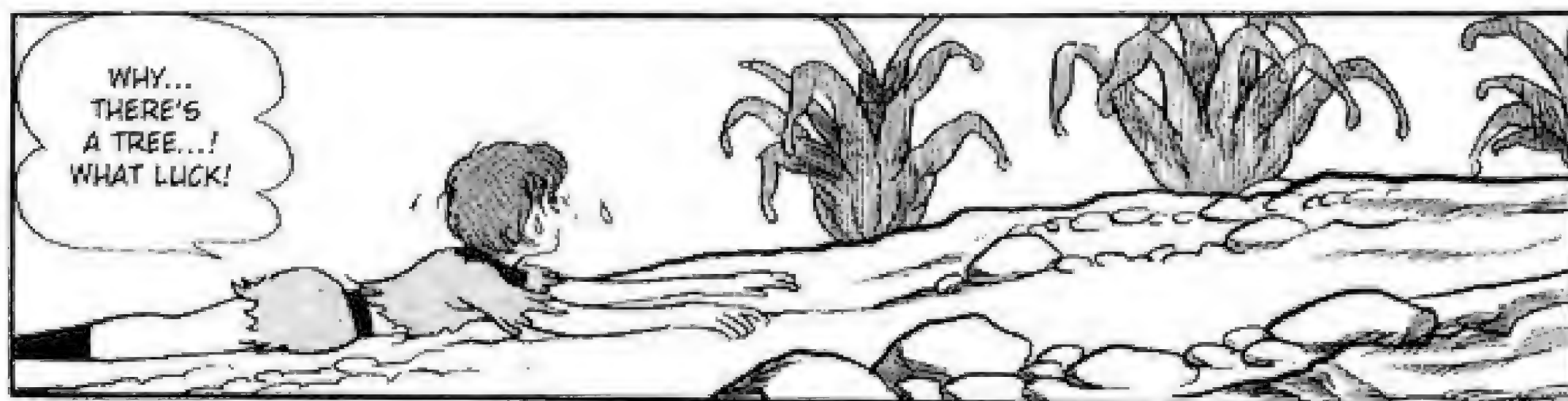
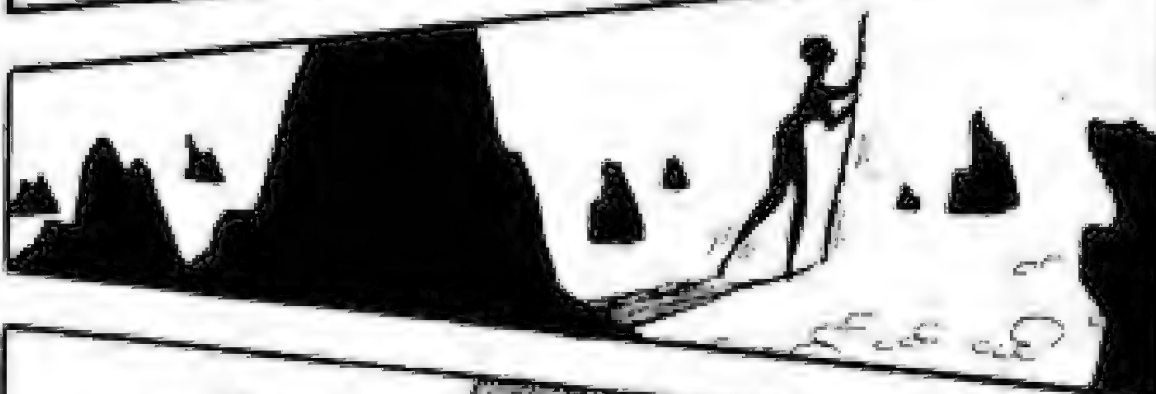


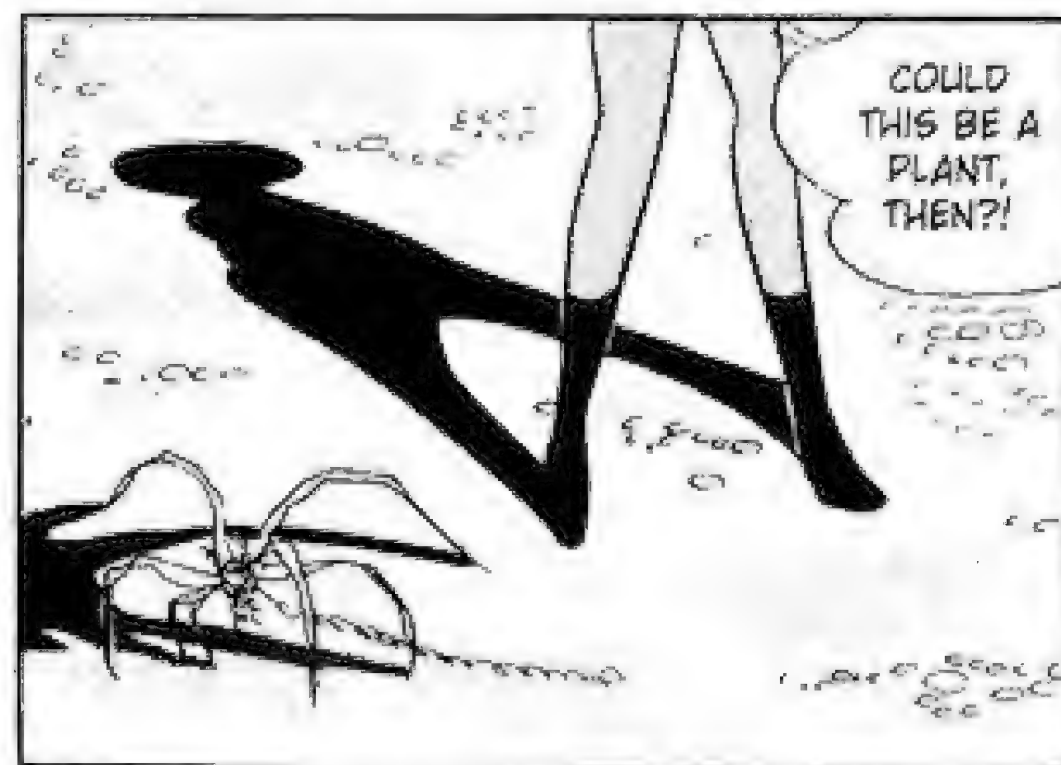
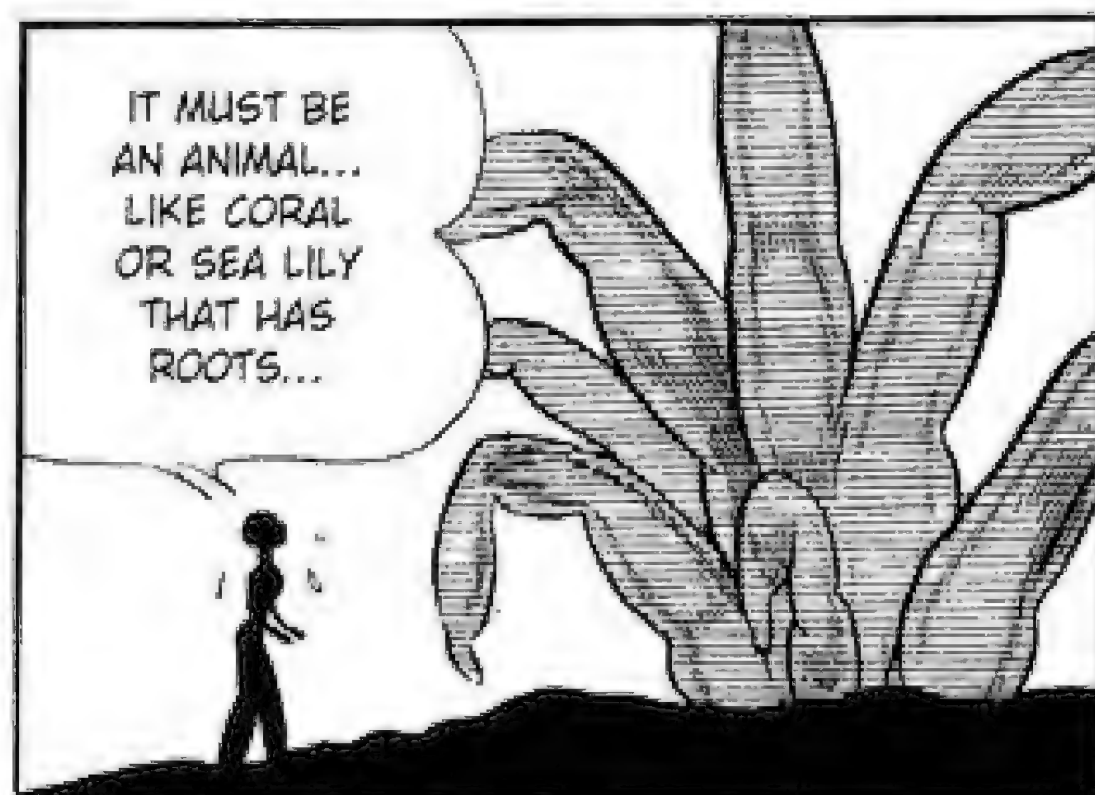
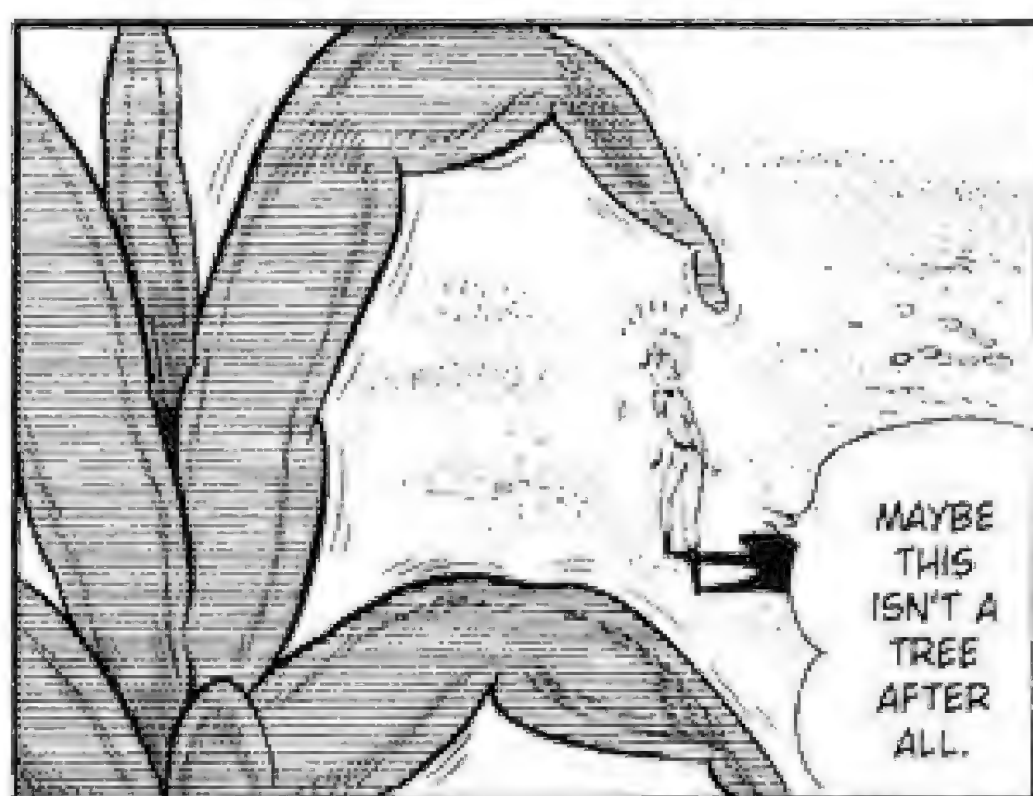


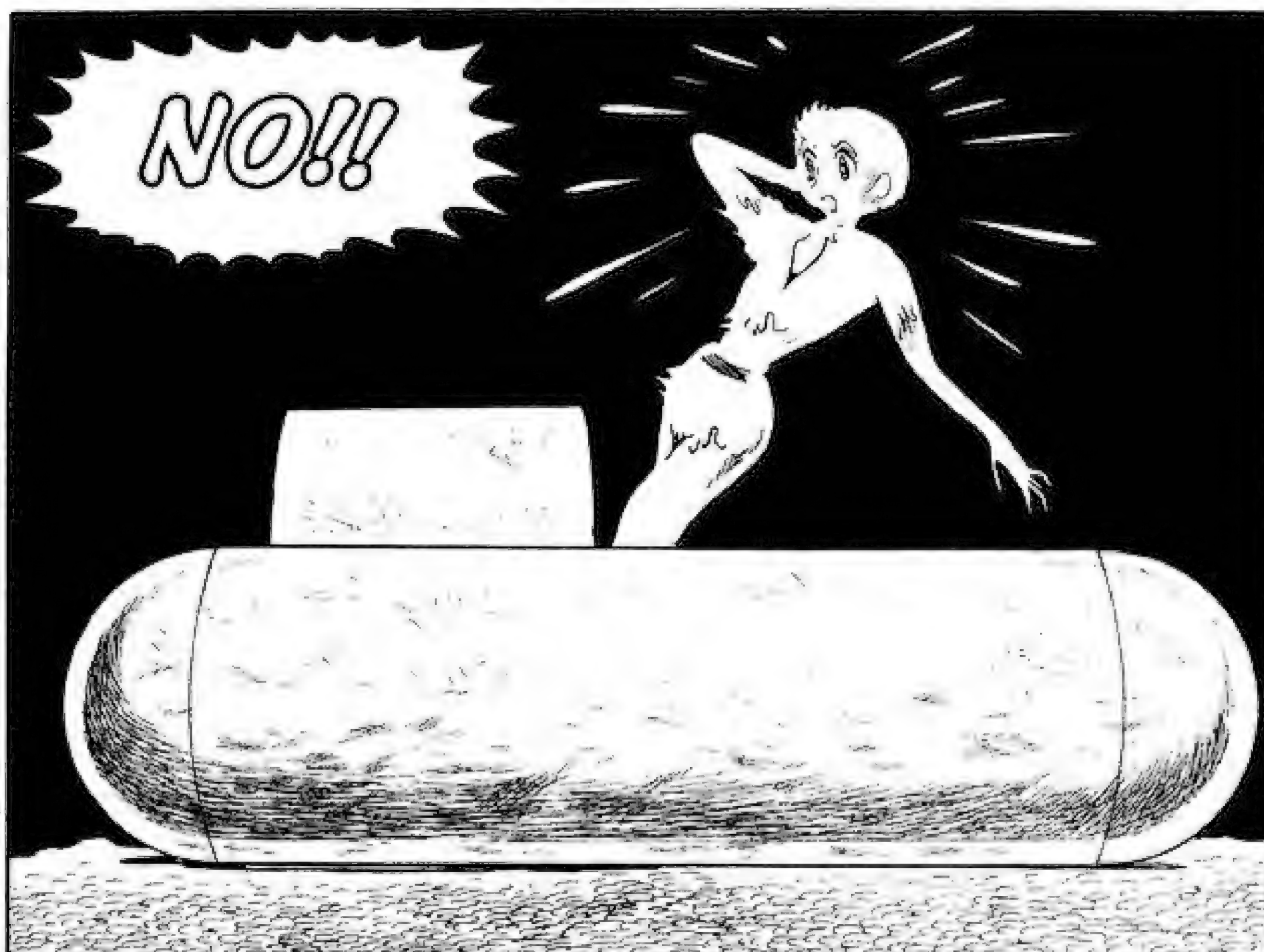
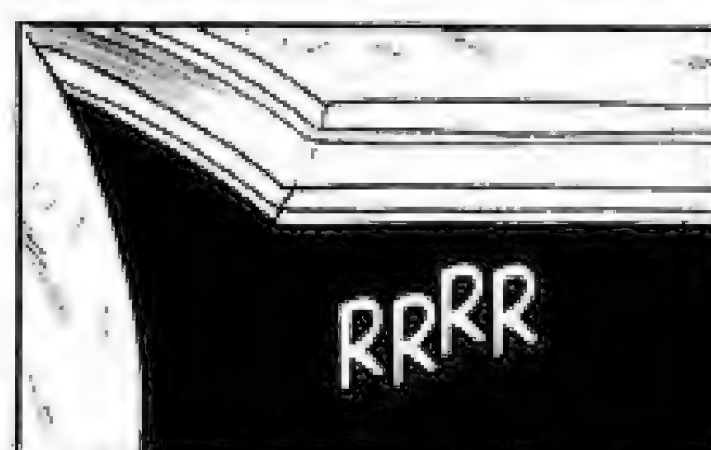
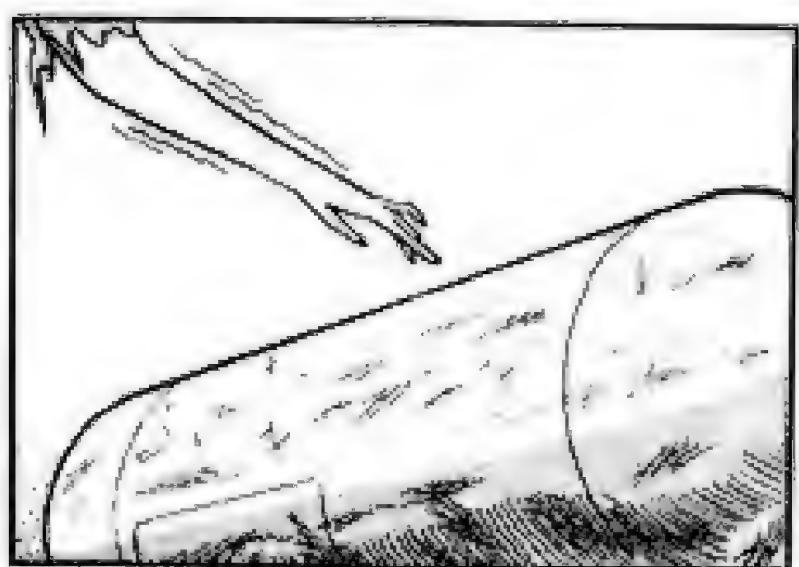


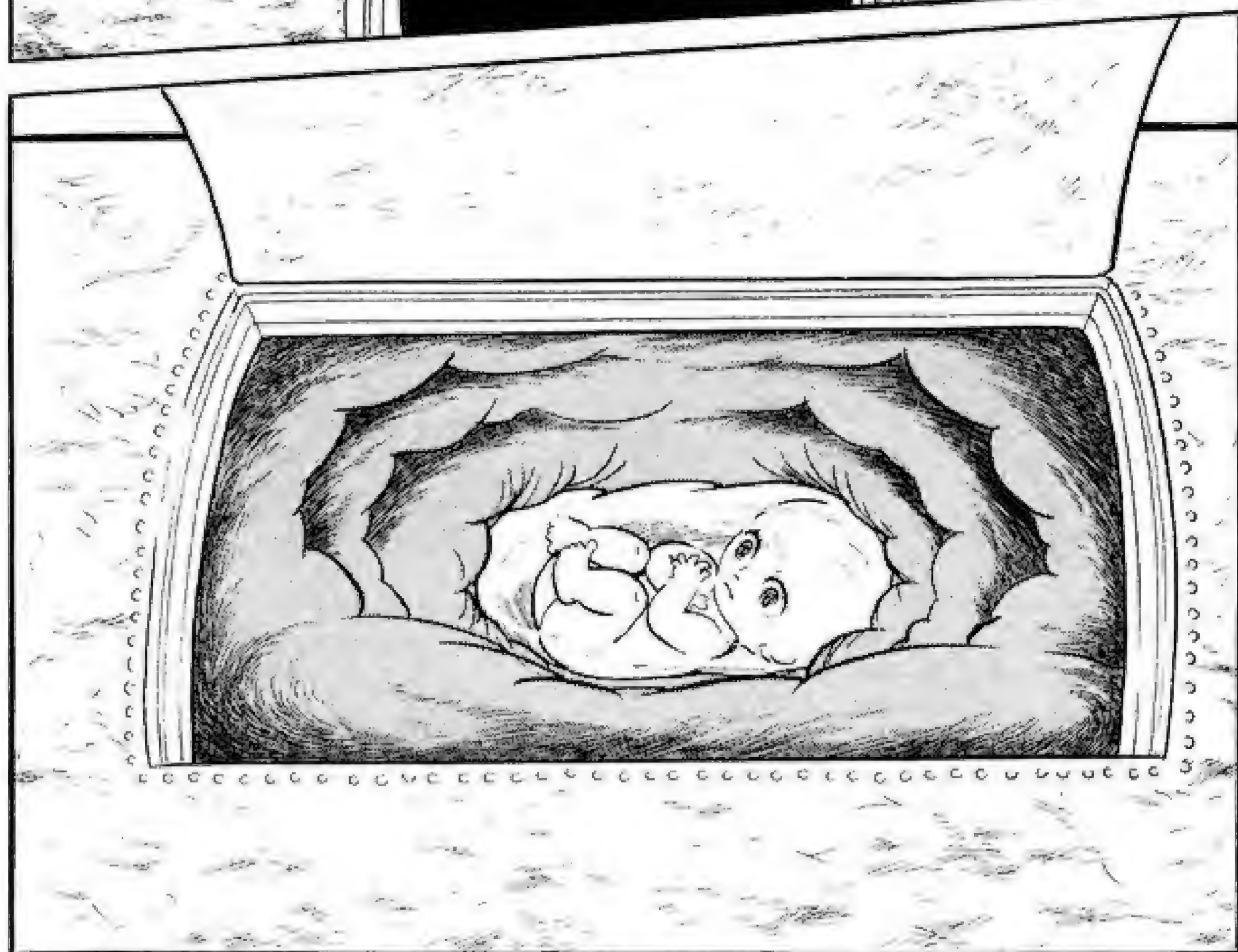


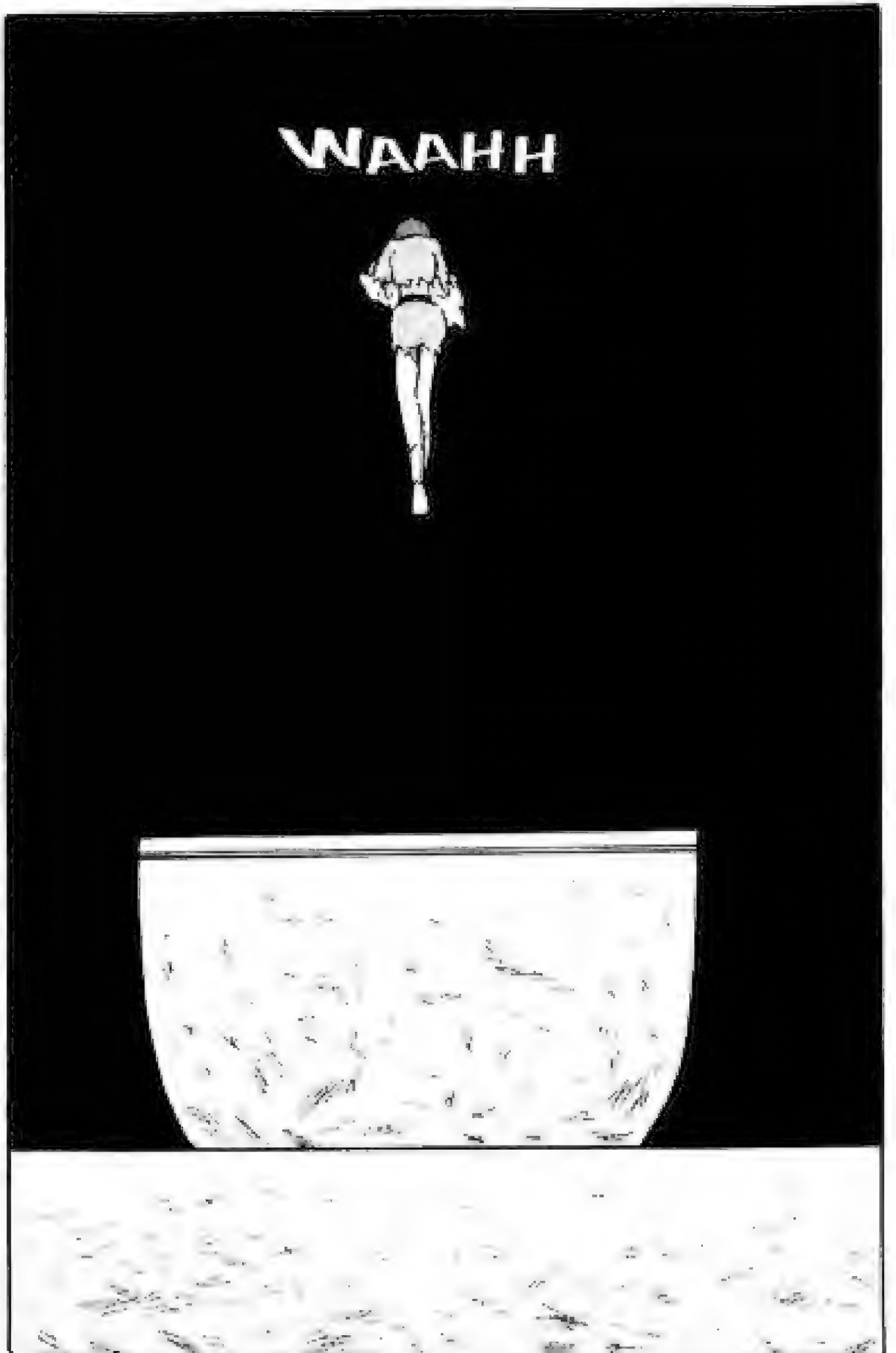
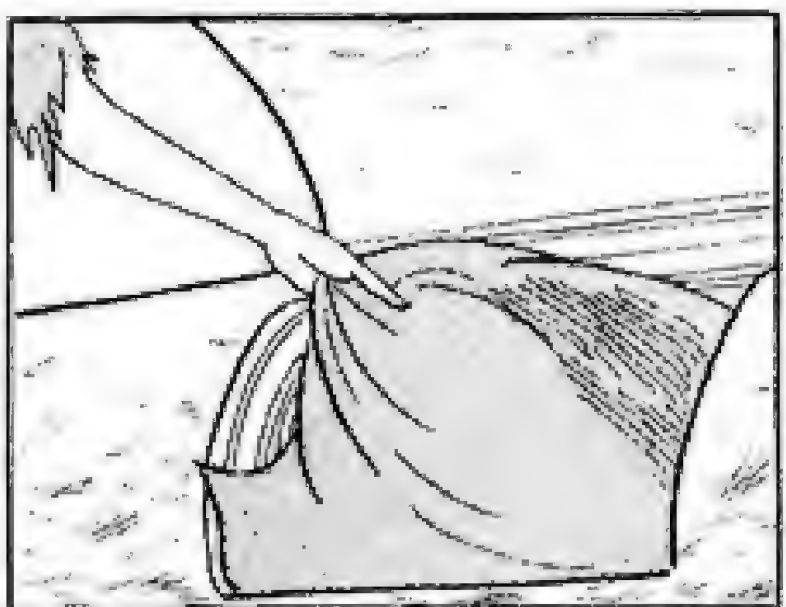
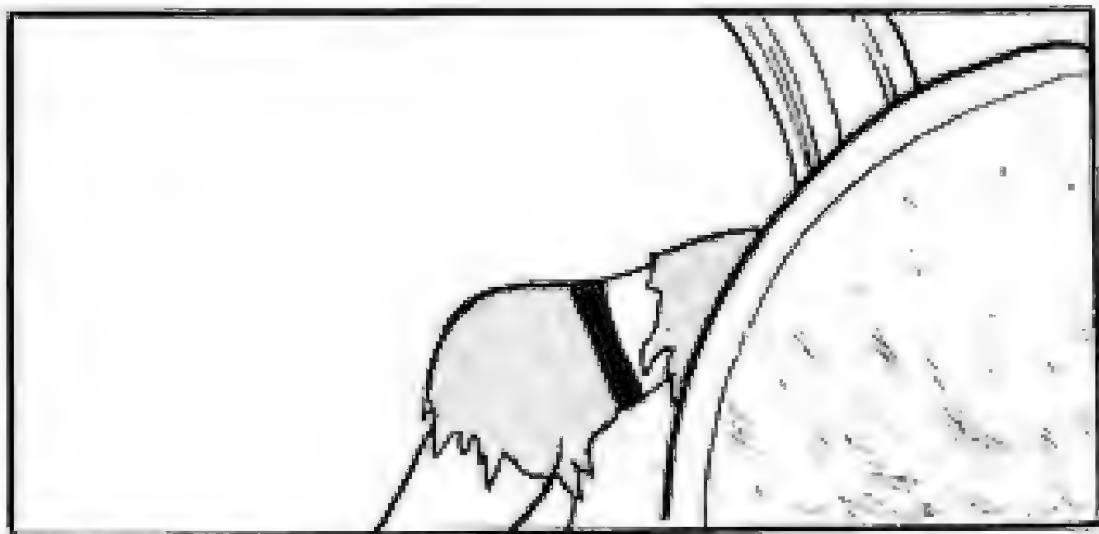
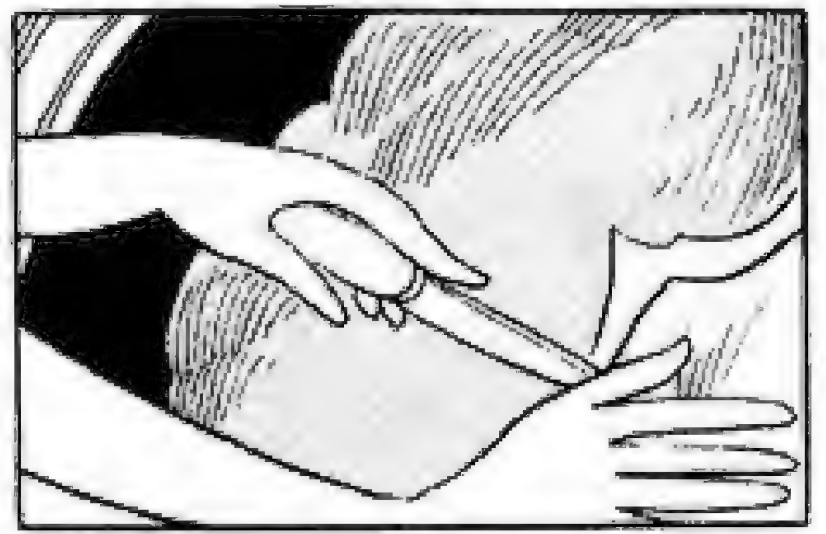
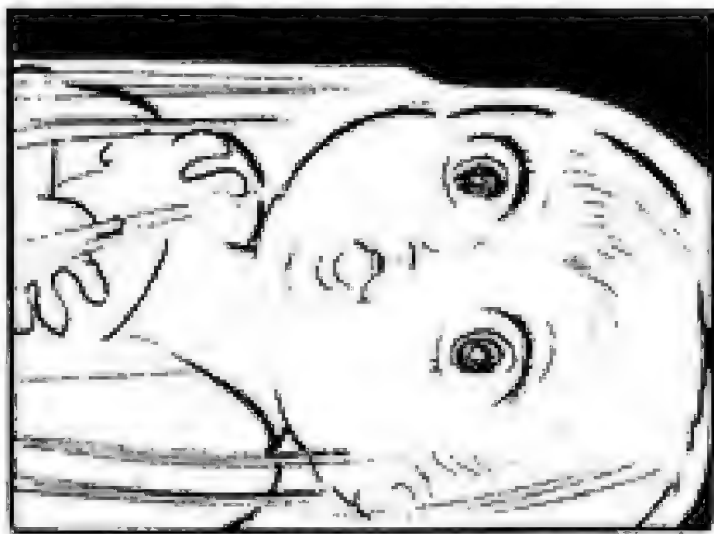














THERE
WAS NO
DOUBT
ABOUT
IT...
THE
PLANET
WAS ODD...
PLANTS
MOVED
FREELY
LIKE
ANIMALS.

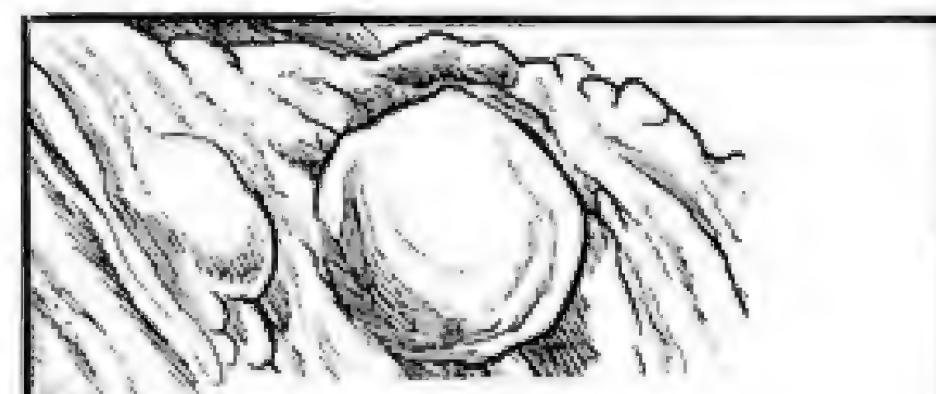


AT REGULAR INTERVALS
VIOLENT STORMS WOULD
COME AND ALL THE
PLANTS WOULD TAKE
REFUGE SOMEWHERE...
I BEGAN TO UNDERSTAND
WHY THE PLANTS MOVED
AS THEY DID.



I THEN
DISCOVERED
SOMETHING
EVEN
MORE
AMAZING...

ONE DAY I
ACCIDENTALLY
DISLODGED A
LARGE
BOULDER
FROM A
CLIFF.



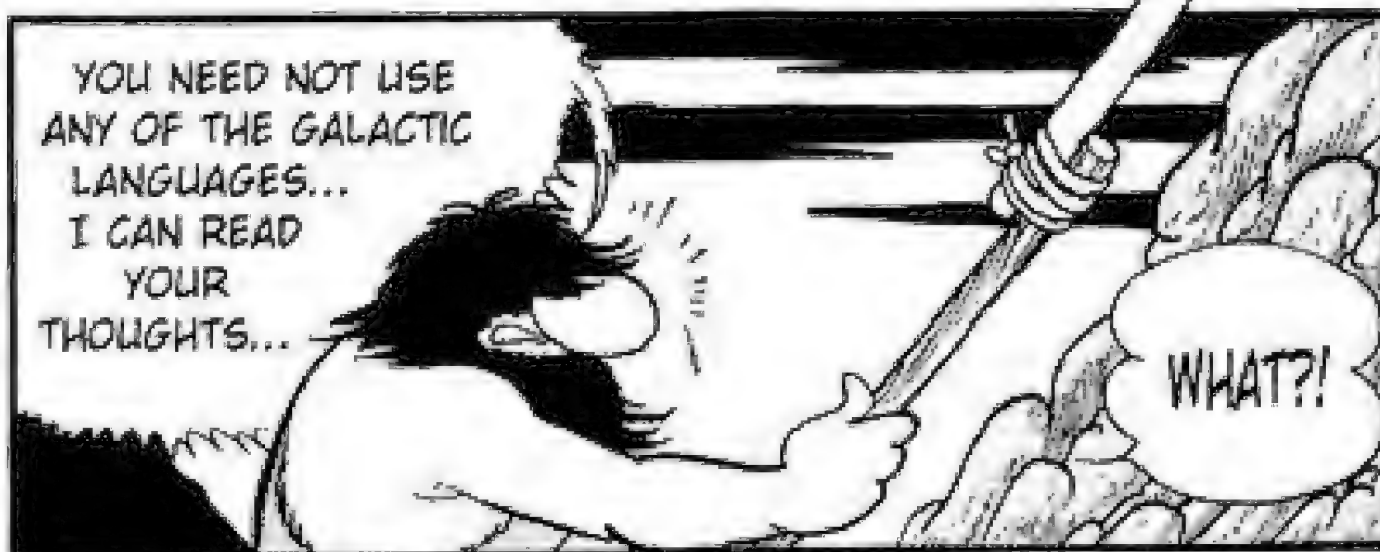
THE NEXT DAY I WAS SHOCKED TO SEE
THAT THE SAME BOULDER HAD SOMEHOW
RETURNED TO ITS ORIGINAL POSITION.
I THOUGHT I HAD BECOME ACCUSTOMED
TO STRANGE OCCURRENCES, BUT THIS
TOOK ME BY TOTAL SURPRISE.







YOU NEED NOT USE
ANY OF THE GALACTIC
LANGUAGES...
I CAN READ
YOUR
THOUGHTS...



WHAT?!



I AM A
RESIDENT OF
FREMIL, THE
11TH PLANET OF
THE LATOMUS
SOLAR SYSTEM.



LATOMUS...?!
HMM...
I'VE HEARD
OF THAT
NAME
SOMEWHERE
BEFORE...

OF
COURSE!!
MAKIMURA
WAS ONCE
SENT
THERE ON
A MISSION!

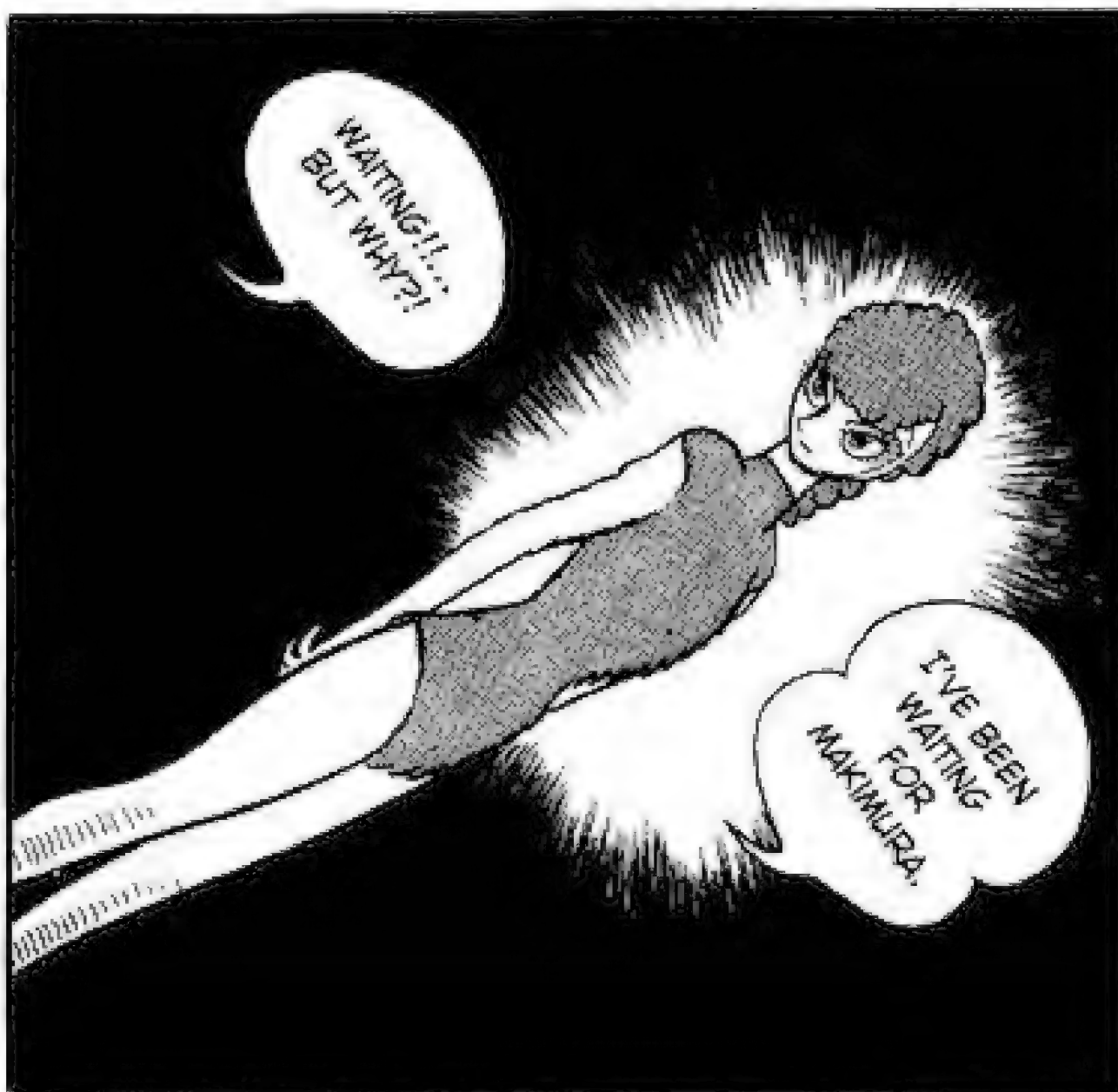


WELL...
DOES THAT
MEAN THIS
PLANET IS
IN THE
LATOMUS
SYSTEM?!

NO.



THIS IS AN
UNNAMED
PLANET.
I HAVE
BEEN
WAITING
HERE FOR
YOU.



WAITING!!...
BUT WHY?!

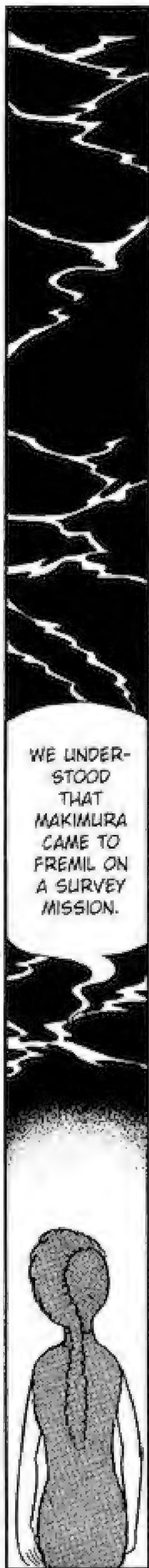
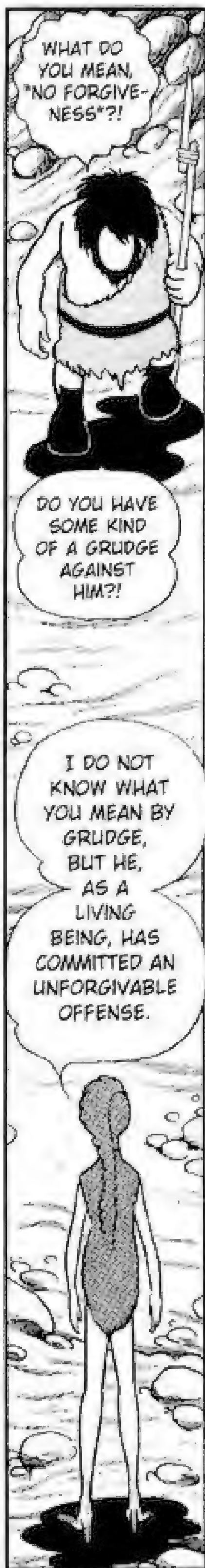
I'VE BEEN
WAITING
FOR
MAKIMURA.

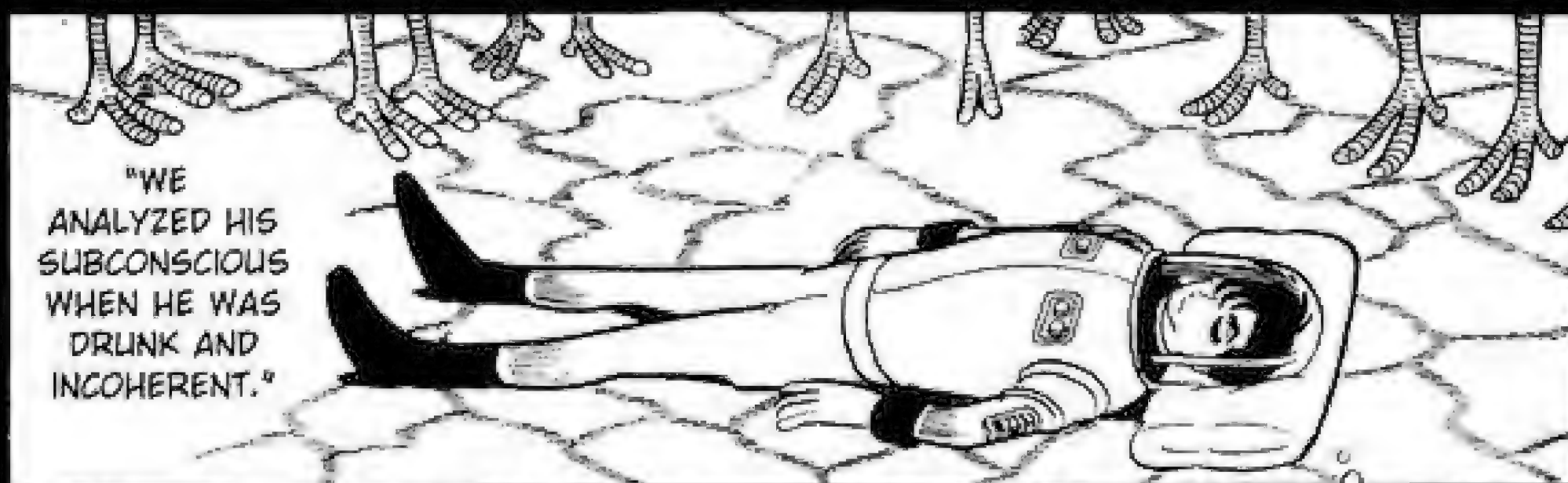


IT IS A MATTER
WHICH DOES NOT
CONCERN YOU.

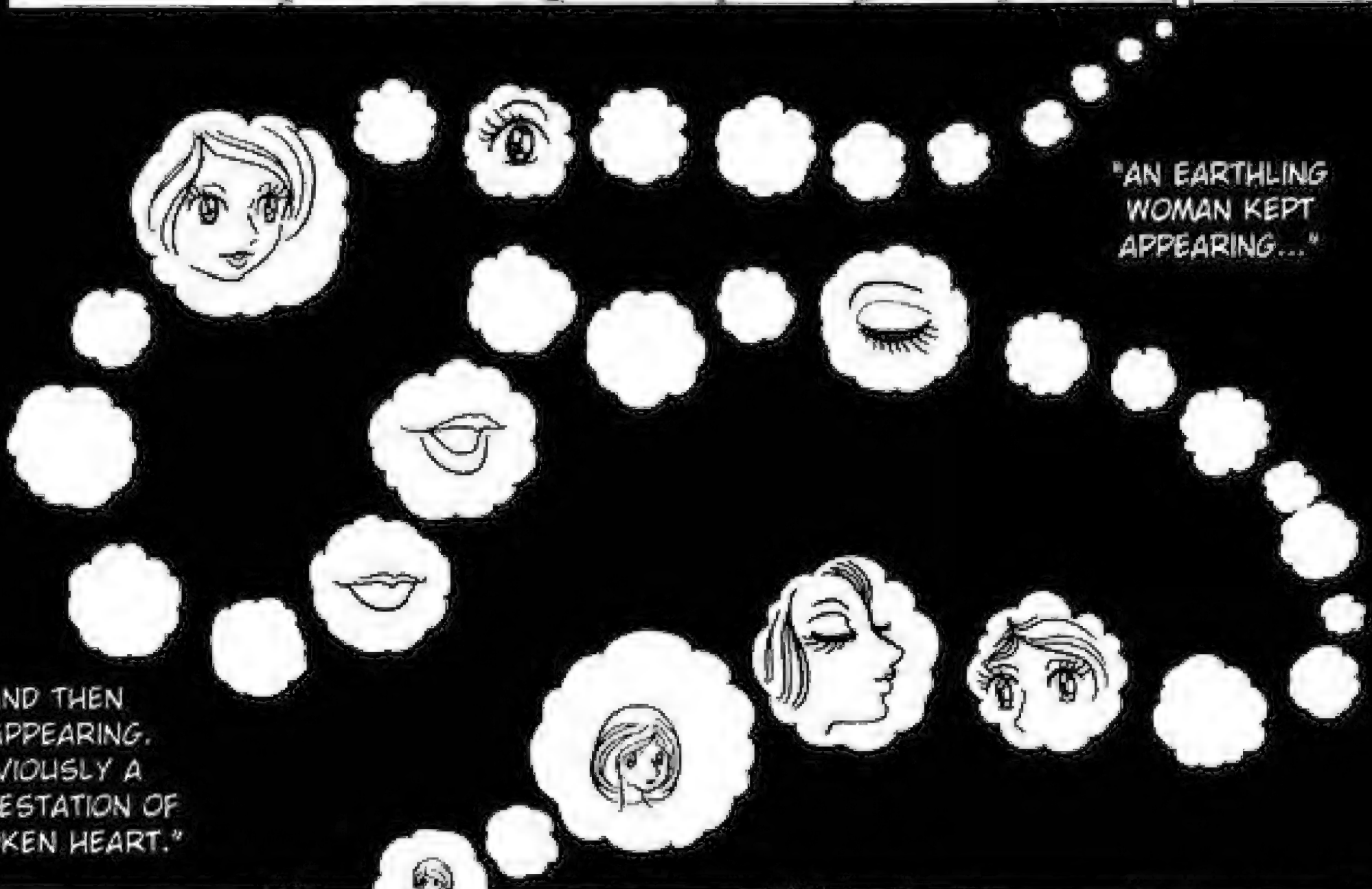


BUT THERE
SHALL BE NO
FORGIVENESS
FOR MAKIMURA.



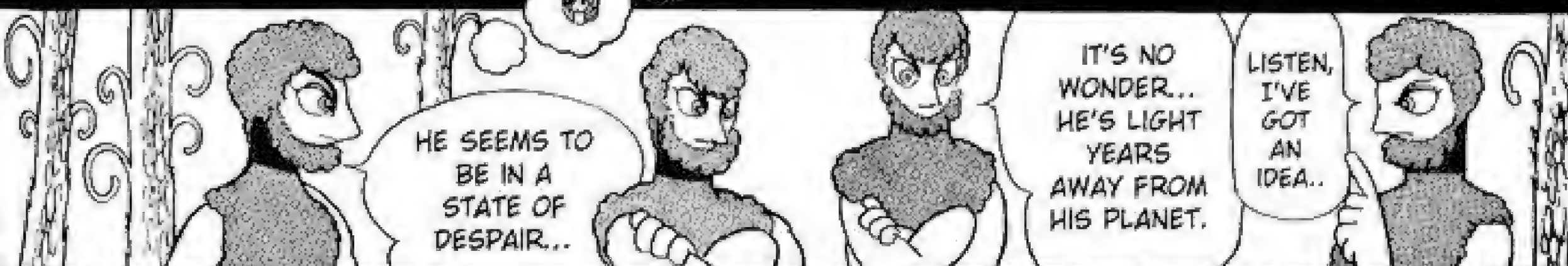


"WE
ANALYZED HIS
SUBCONSCIOUS
WHEN HE WAS
DRUNK AND
INCOHERENT."



"AN EARTHLING
WOMAN KEPT
APPEARING..."

"AND THEN
DISAPPEARING.
OBVIOUSLY A
MANIFESTATION OF
A BROKEN HEART."



HE SEEMS TO
BE IN A
STATE OF
DESPAIR...

IT'S NO
WONDER...
HE'S LIGHT
YEARS
AWAY FROM
HIS PLANET.

LISTEN,
I'VE
GOT
AN
IDEA..

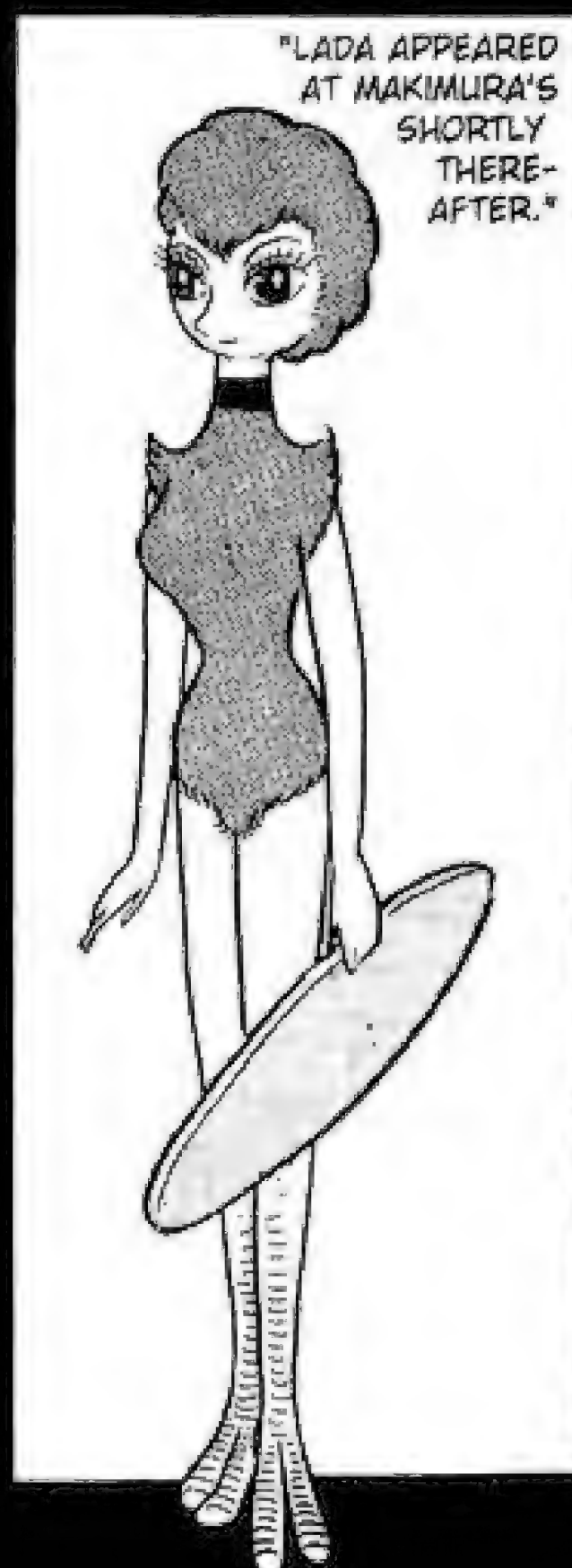


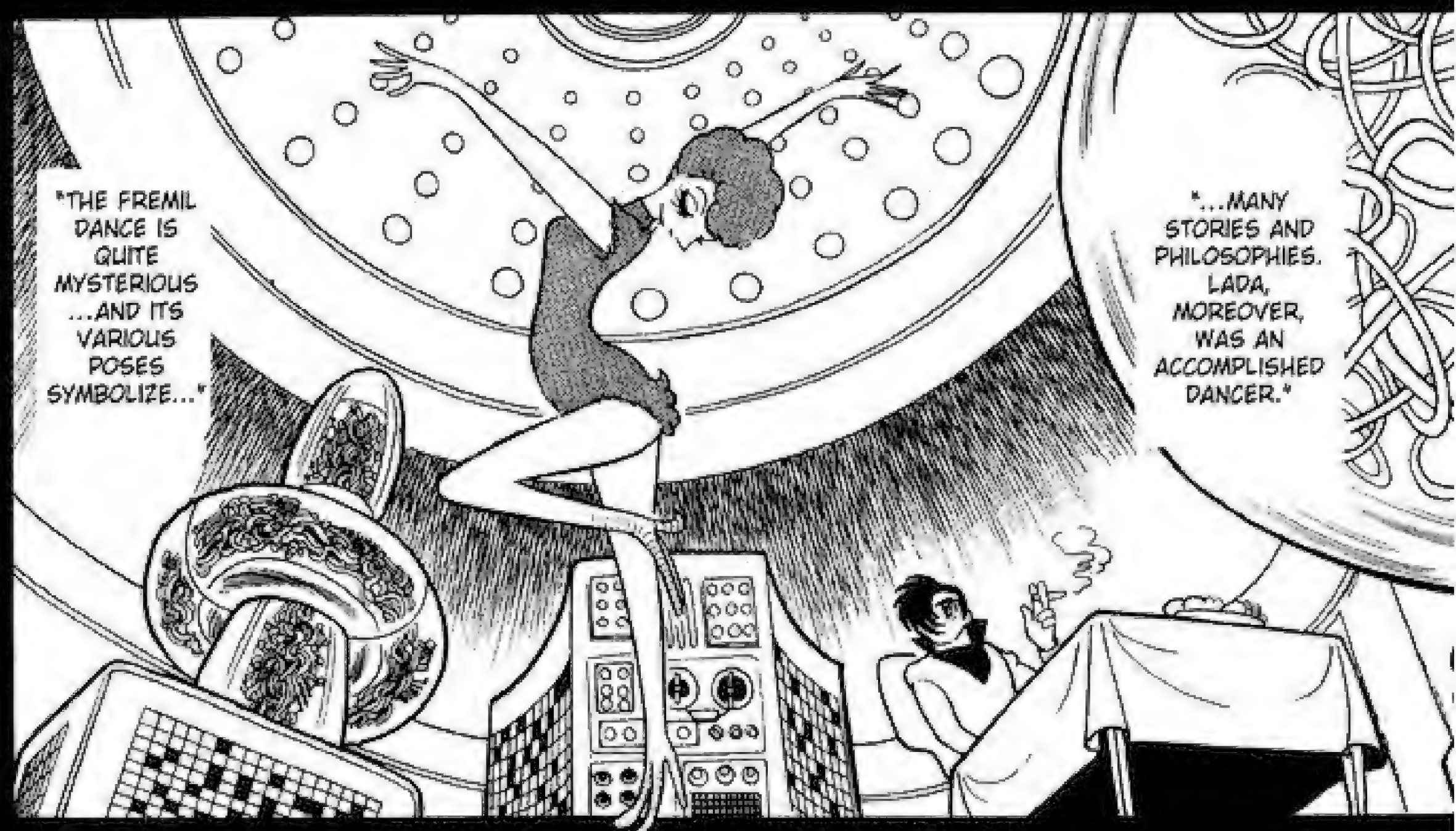
IF WE PROVIDE
HIM WITH
SOMEONE WHO
CAN GIVE HIM
LOVE, HIS
PROBLEMS WILL
BE OVER.



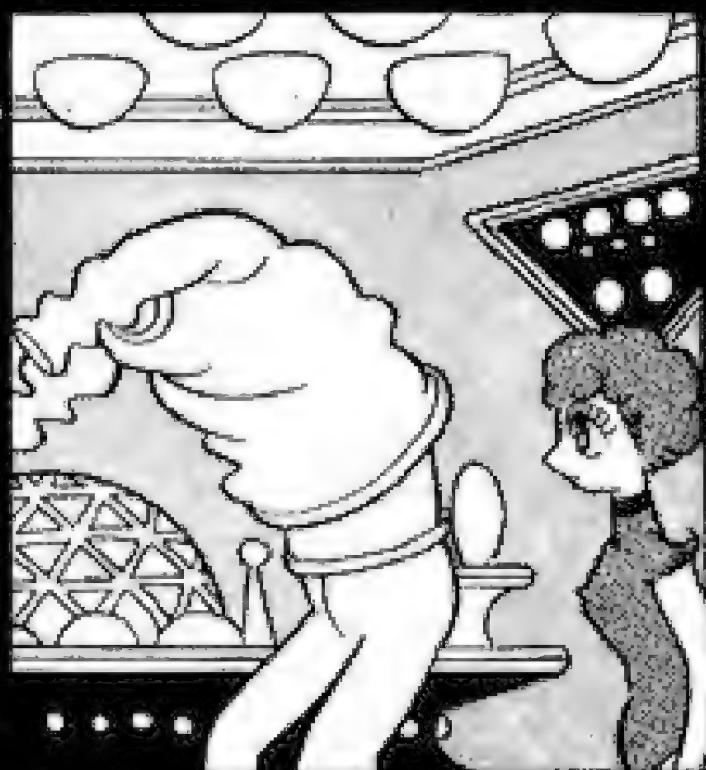
BUT
WHO
WOULD
...

I'LL
HAVE MY
YOUNGER
SISTER TAKE
CARE OF
HIM.



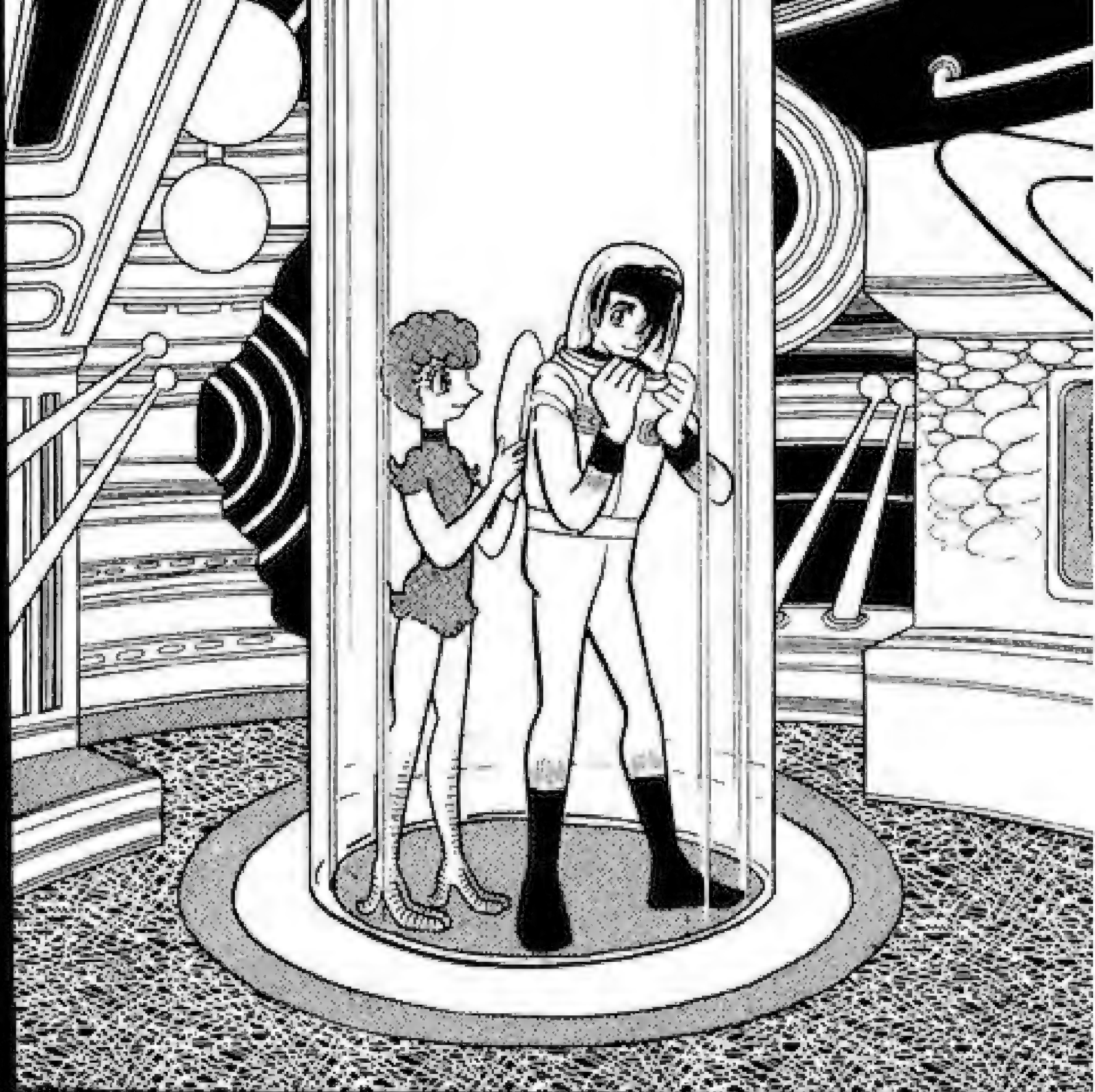


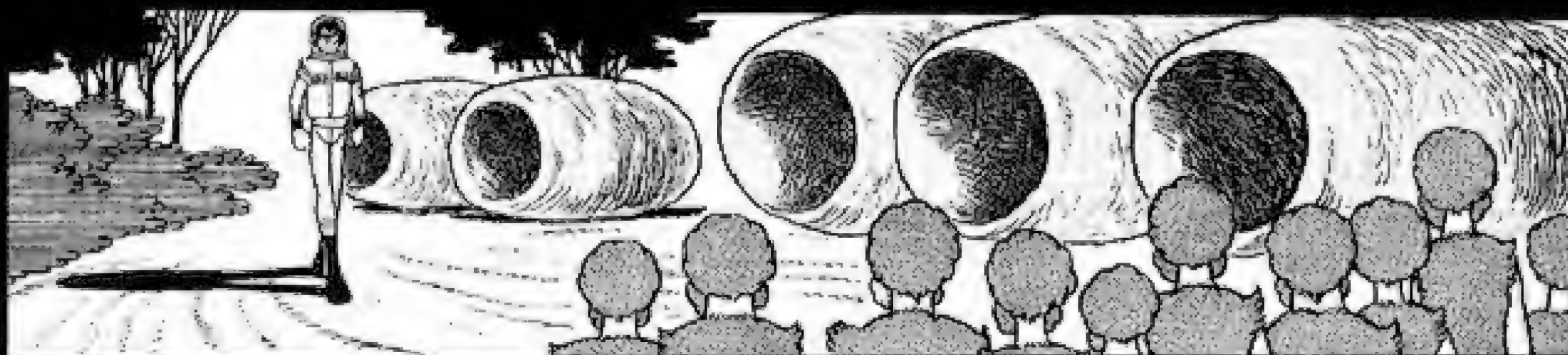






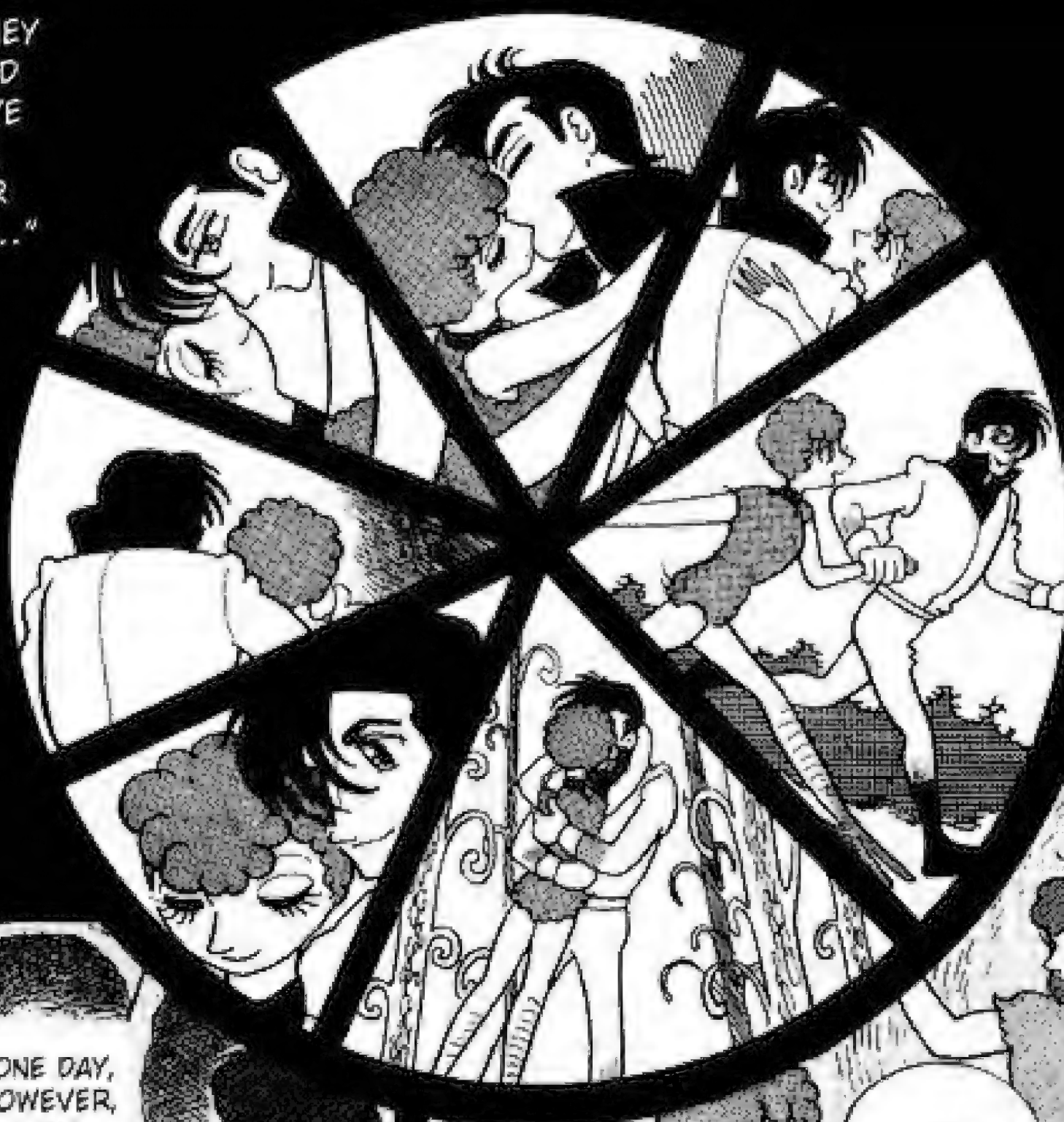
"AFTER THAT MAKIMURA CHANGED, IT WAS AS IF LADA'S EFFORTS AT PLEASING HIM HAD FINALLY STIRRED SOMETHING IN HIS HEART. HE BEGAN TO TREAT HER AS HE WOULD AN EARTH LOVER, AND THEIR RELATIONSHIP EVOLVED TO ONE WHERE HE SPOKE WITH TENDERNESS, AFFECTION...AND HUMOR..."





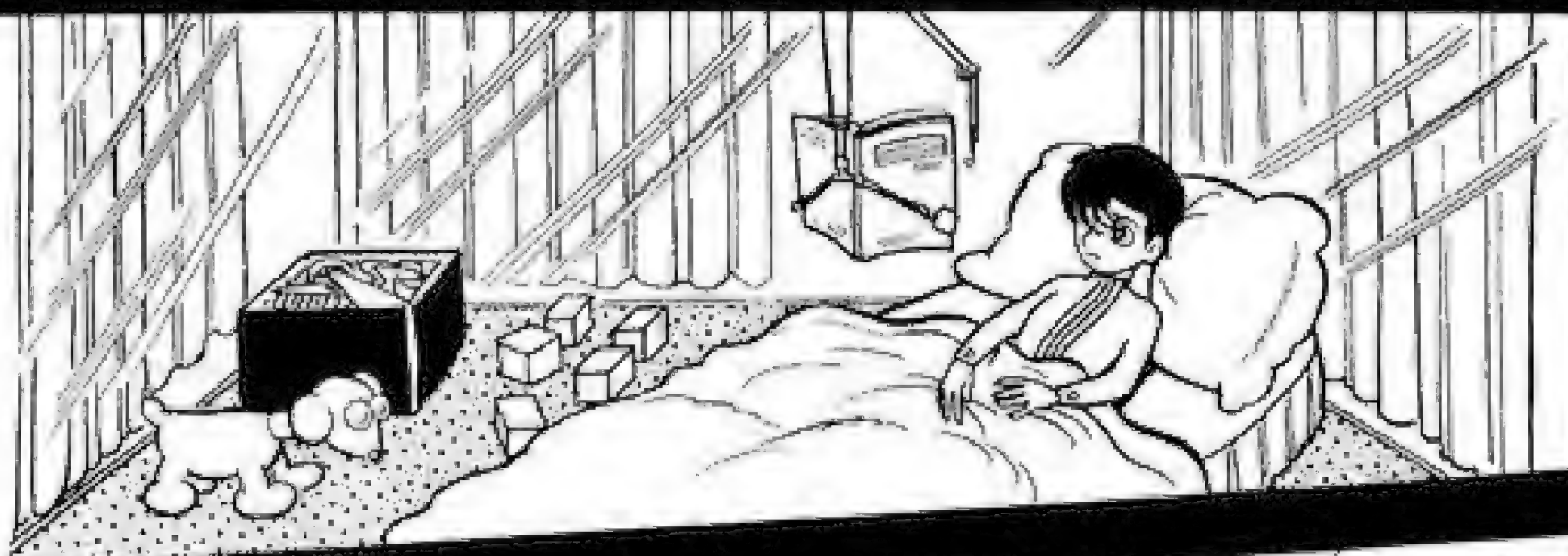


"AND THEY SEEMED TO LOVE EACH OTHER DEEPLY..."





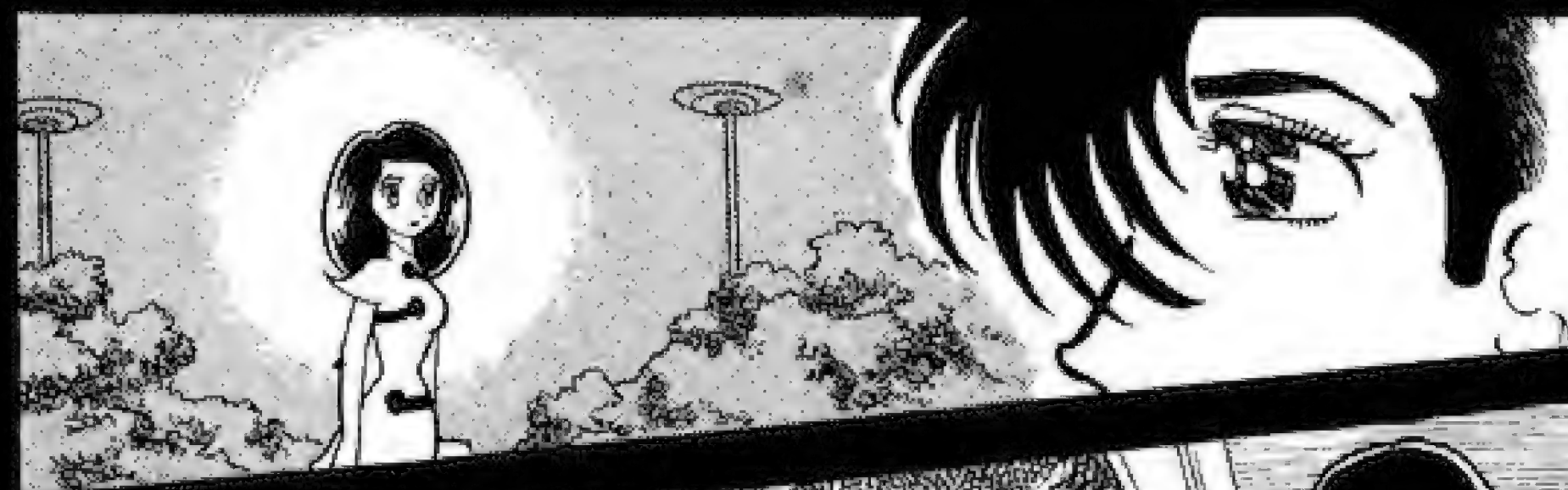
"WHY?!... WELL,
I WAS RAISED
FROM BIRTH TO
BE A SPACE
PILOT, AND FOR
THAT REASON
COMPANIONSHIP
AND FAMILY
WERE NOT
CONSIDERED
NECESSARY."



"I LIVED
IN THIS
CENTER FOR
EIGHTEEN
YEARS
WITHOUT
EVER
LEAVING...
I WASN'T
ALLOWED
TO, BECAUSE
IF I DID,
I MIGHT PICK
UP SOME
BACTERIA..."



"...AND THEN
LATER
CONTAMINATE
ANOTHER
PLANET..."



"BUT
ONE
DAY..."



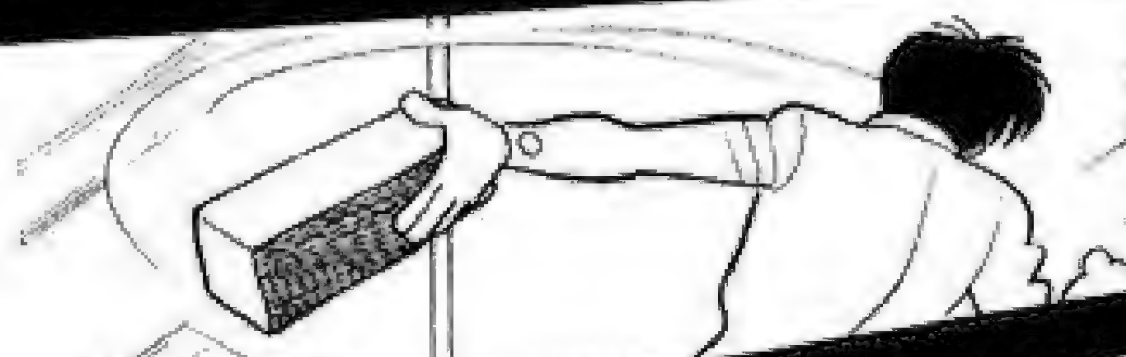
"I SAW A
BEAUTIFUL
GIRL WHO
OFTEN
CAME
TO THE
CENTER
AS AN
EMPLOYEE
OF A
FOOD
COMPANY..."

SHE..."

"SHE TEMPTED
ME...SHE WAS
MY FIRST LOVE,
BUT AS FAR AS
SHE WAS
CONCERNED..."



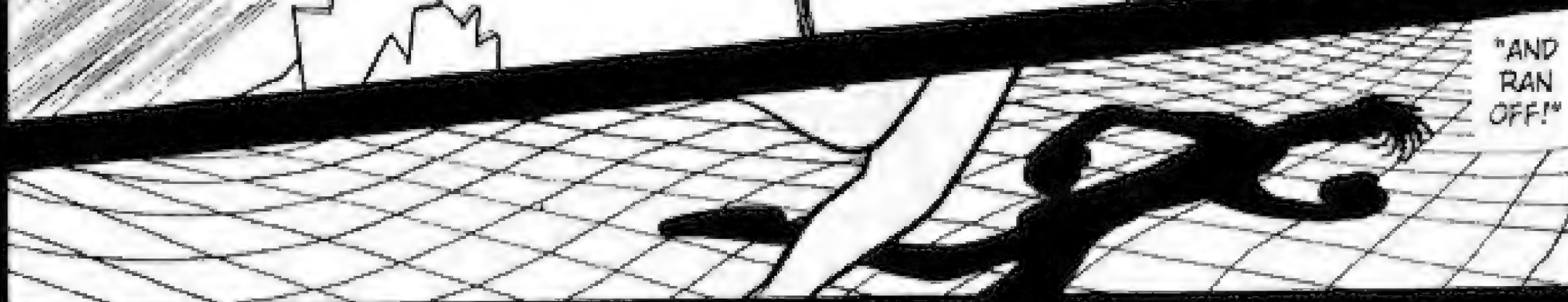
"I WAS
NOTHING
BUT A
PLAYTHING.
BUT..."



"I WAS TOO
MUCH IN
LOVE TO
REALIZE
THAT...
I BROKE OUT
OF MY GLASS
ROOM..."



"AND
RAN
OFF!"



"I WENT
STRAIGHT
TO HER
HOUSE..."



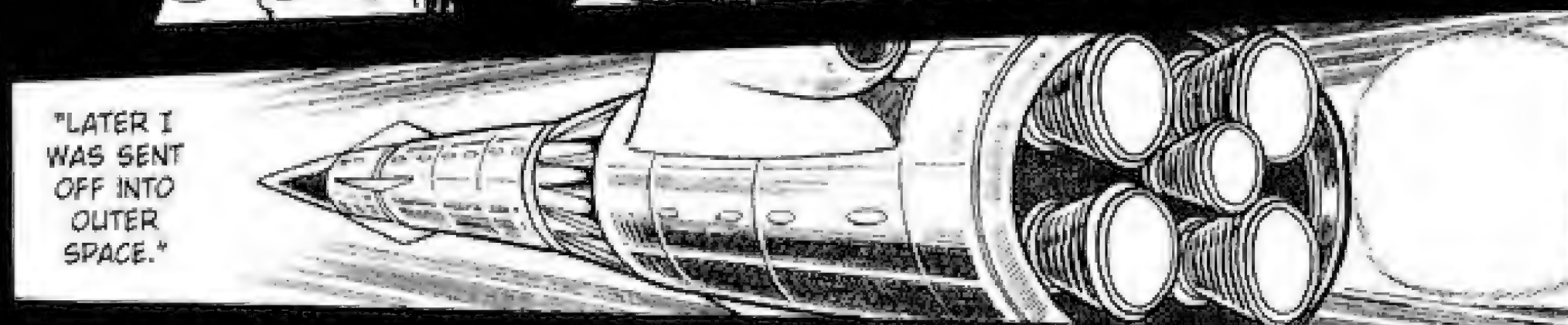
"BUT SHE
ONLY
LAUGHED
AT ME
AND
SNEERED
AT MY
PLIGHT."

"SHE DIDN'T
CARE ABOUT
ME AT ALL...
DEVASTATED, I
RETURNED TO
THE CENTER."

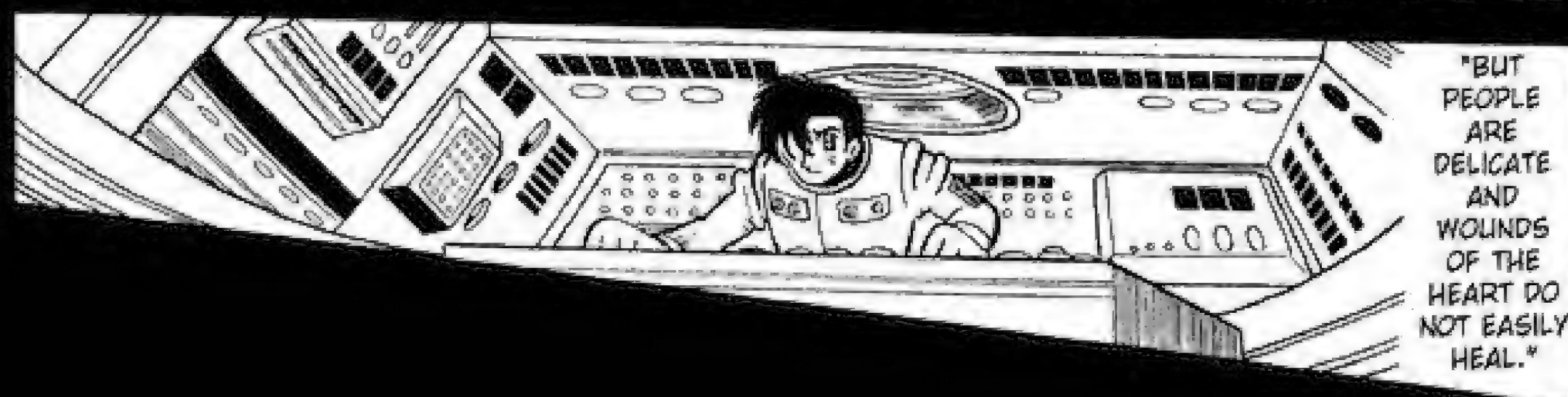




"I WAS GIVEN
A BATTERY OF
TESTS TO
ENSURE I
WAS NOT
CONTAMI-
NATED."



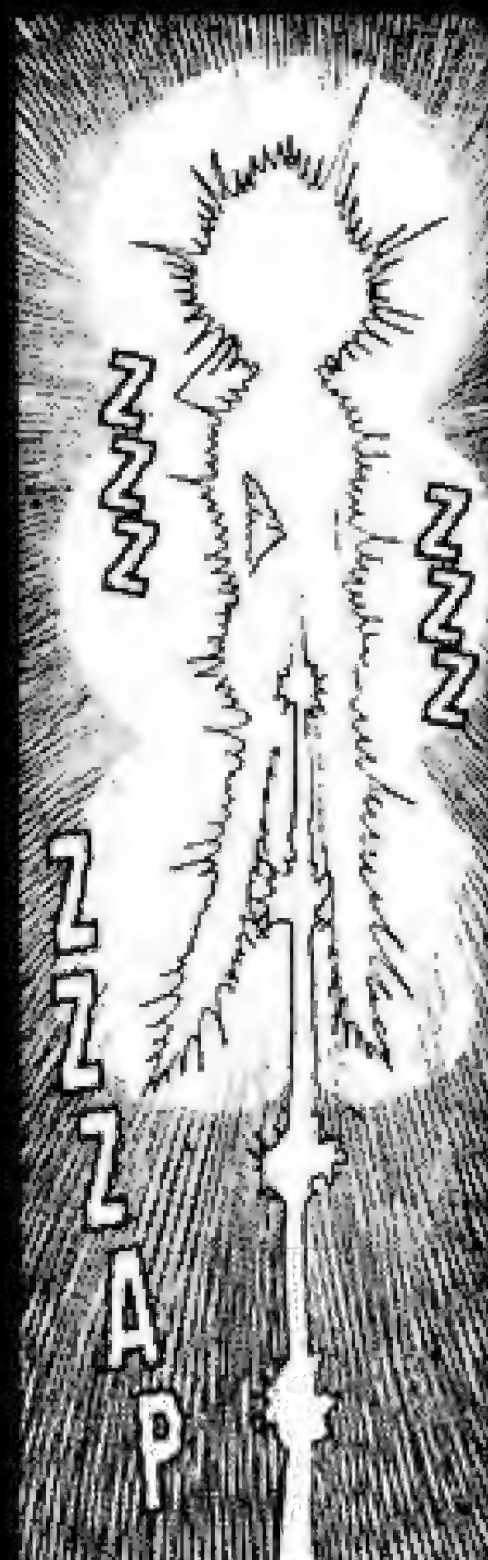
"LATER I
WAS SENT
OFF INTO
OUTER
SPACE."



"BUT
PEOPLE
ARE
DELICATE
AND
WOUNDS
OF THE
HEART DO
NOT EASILY
HEAL."



HERE...I'LL
JUST SHOW
YOU WHAT
SHE
LOOKED
LIKE...





GOSH...I
HAVEN'T
SEEN YOU
FOR SUCH
A LONG
TIME,
MAKI-
MURA...

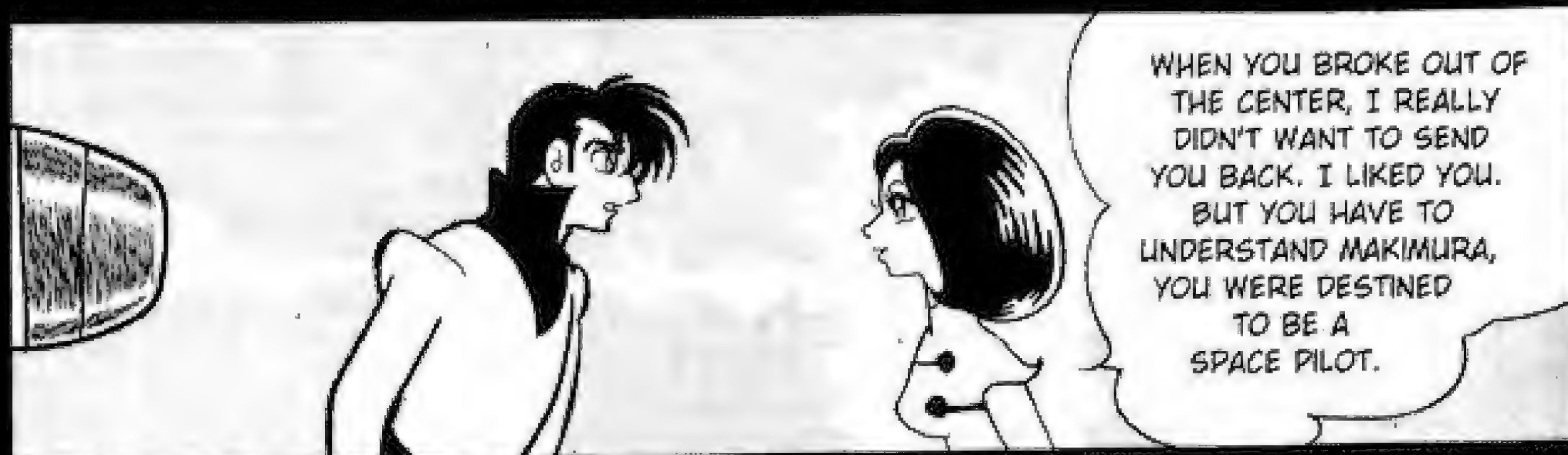
ARE YOU
STILL
ANGRY AT
ME FOR
WHAT
HAPPENED
THAT DAY?



I...I
HARDLY
GIVE YOU A
THOUGHT
ANYMORE,
BEING
HERE IN
OUTER
SPACE...

HOW
CAN
THAT
BE
TRUE?

YOU RECALLED
MY IMAGE
WELL ENOUGH
TO PROJECT
ME, DIDN'T
YOU?



WHEN YOU BROKE OUT OF
THE CENTER, I REALLY
DIDN'T WANT TO SEND
YOU BACK. I LIKED YOU.
BUT YOU HAVE TO
UNDERSTAND MAKIMURA,
YOU WERE DESTINED
TO BE A
SPACE PILOT.



YOU
SHOULD
HAVE
NEVER
LEFT THE
CENTER.

THAT'S WHY
I HAD TO
IGNORE YOU
WHEN YOU
CAME TO MY
HOUSE.

BUT
ACTUALLY...
I WAS
HEART-
BROKEN
AFTER-
WARDS.



NO!



IT'S
TRUE,
MAKI-
MURA.

I
LOVE
YOU.



LIA R!



SO THE EARTH WOMAN SAYS SHE LIKES HIM, EH? WHAT CAN I SAY...THE MACHINE CAN ONLY PROJECT IMAGES THAT ARE ALREADY IN HIS MIND, SO HE SEES ONLY WHAT HE WANTS TO SEE.

HE MUST STILL BE SUBCONSCIOUSLY IN LOVE WITH HER...HE MUST STILL BE WISHING THAT SHE IS IN LOVE WITH HIM.



BUT WHAT SHOULD I DO? EVER SINCE THEN HE PROJECTS HER IMAGE AND TALKS TO HER WHEN HE THINKS I'M NOT NOTICING.



THAT'S WHY I TOLD YOU NOT TO GIVE HIM THE MACHINE, LADA.



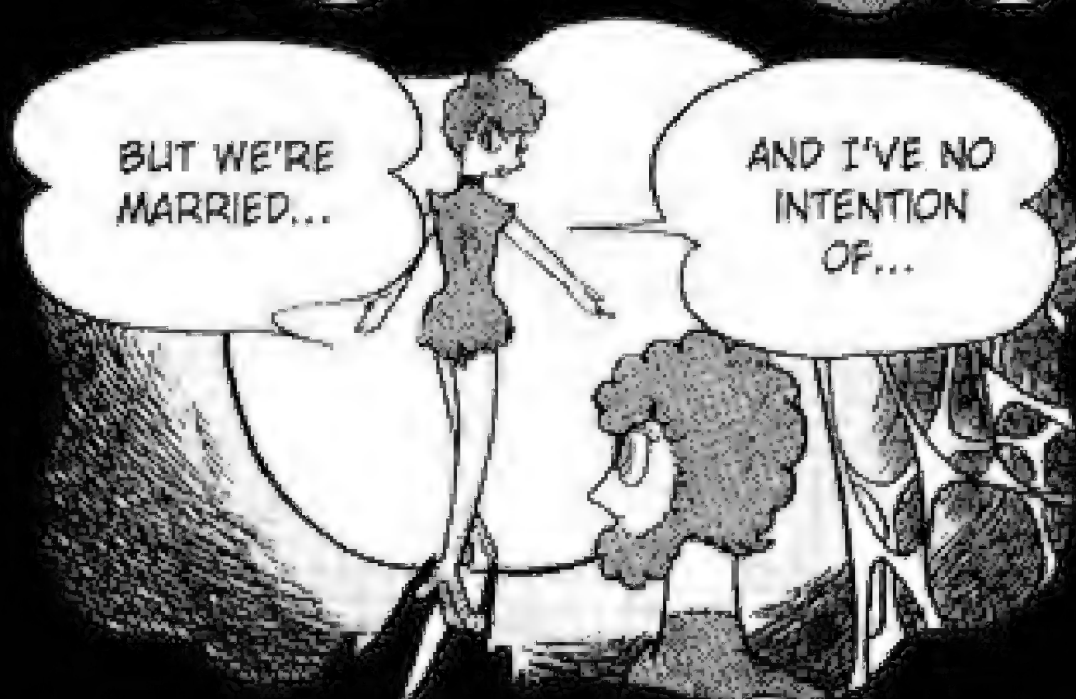
LADA, YOU SHOULD LEAVE HIM, YOU KNOW.



NO!



IF IN HIS SUBCONSCIOUS HE REALLY HATES YOU SOMETHING AWFUL COULD HAPPEN.

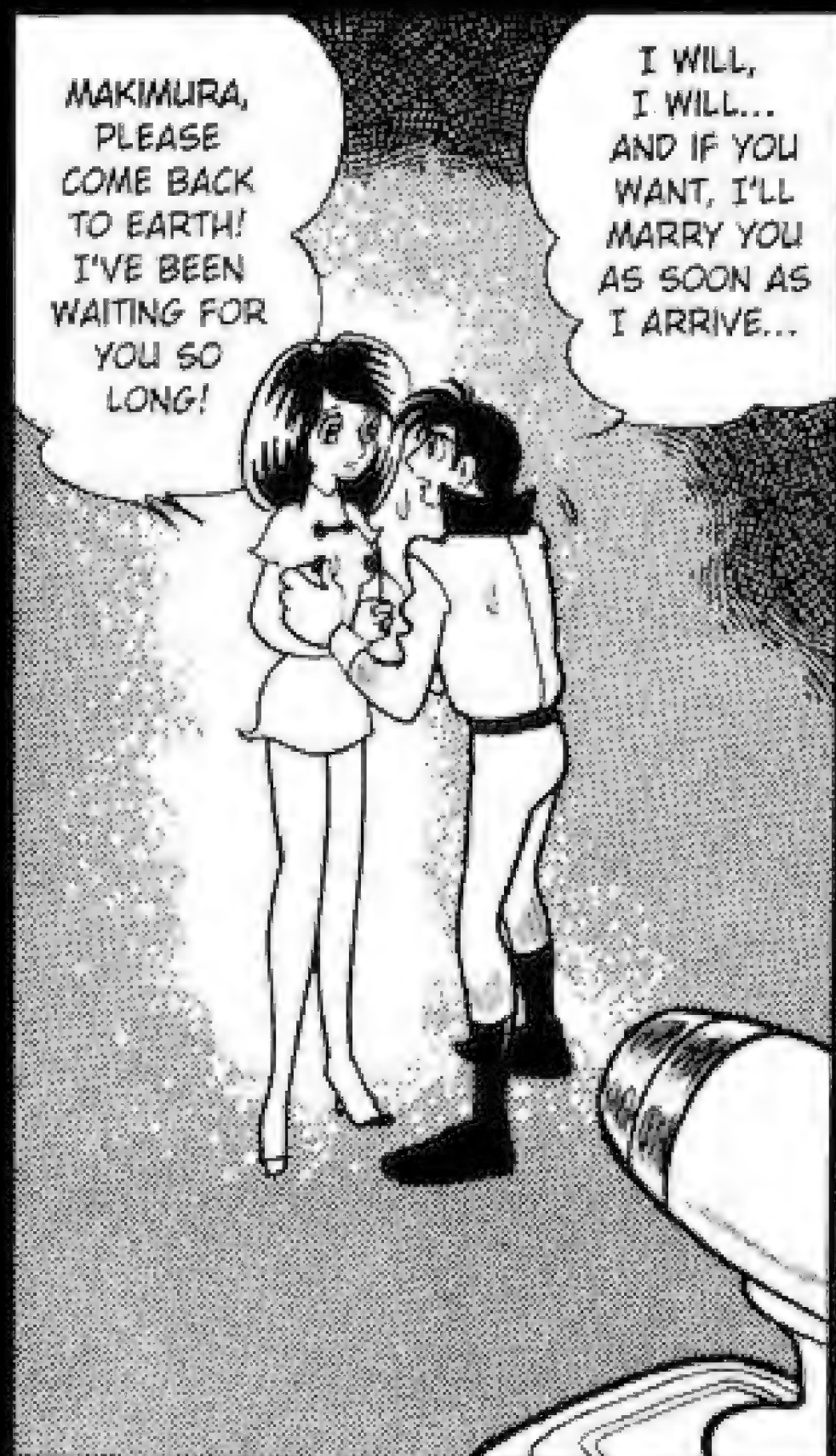


BUT WE'RE MARRIED...

AND I'VE NO INTENTION OF...



...LOSING HIM TO SOME EARTH WOMAN!



MAKIMURA, PLEASE COME BACK TO EARTH! I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU SO LONG!

I WILL, I WILL... AND IF YOU WANT, I'LL MARRY YOU AS SOON AS I ARRIVE...



BUT YOU'RE ALREADY MARRIED TO LADA...



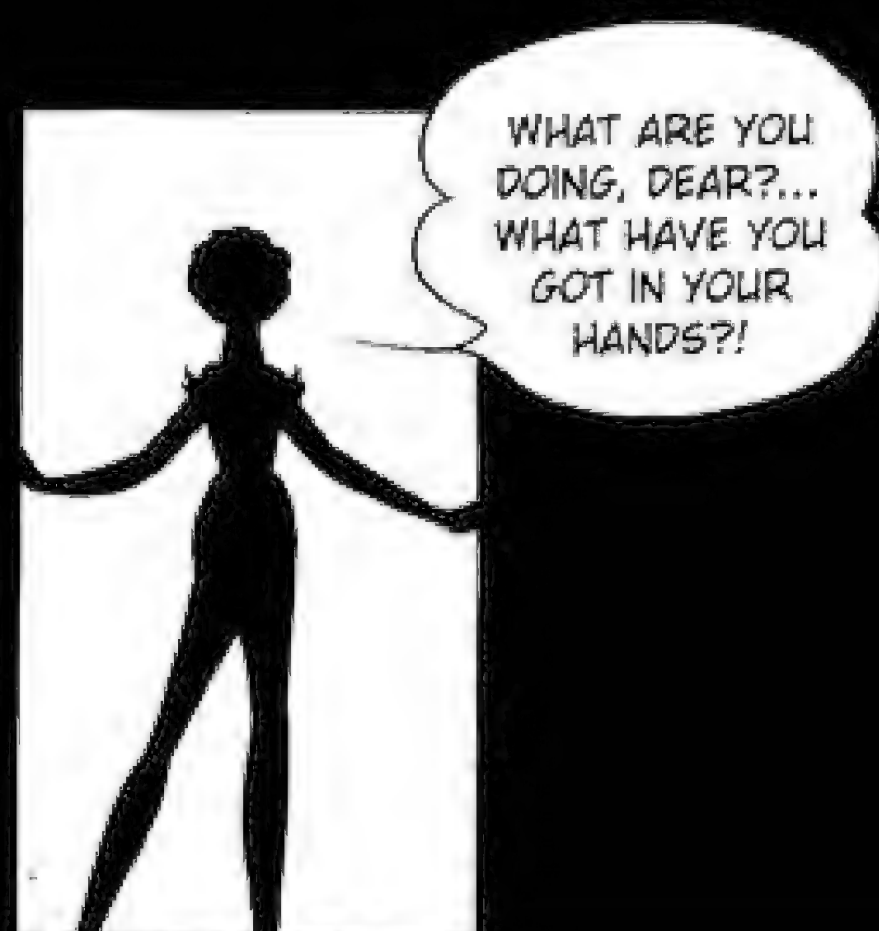
LADA?! HEH... WHY SHE'S ONLY AN ALIEN!



THAT'S RIGHT...

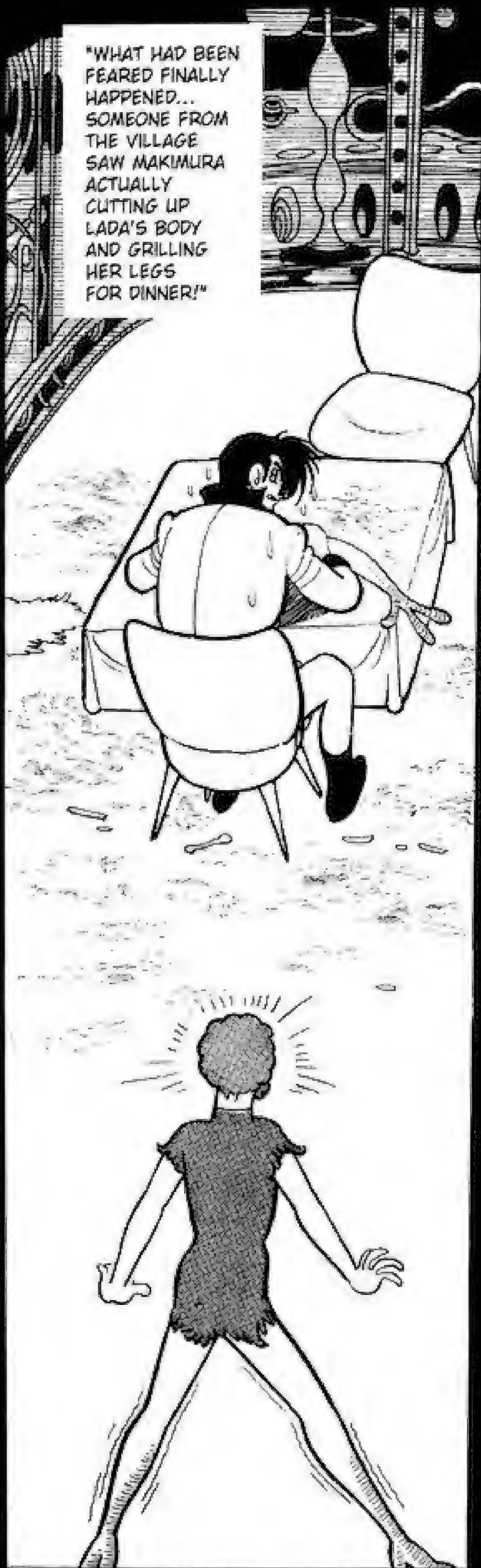
SHE ISN'T HUMAN, IS SHE!

BUT SHE'S YOUR WIFE, RIGHT?





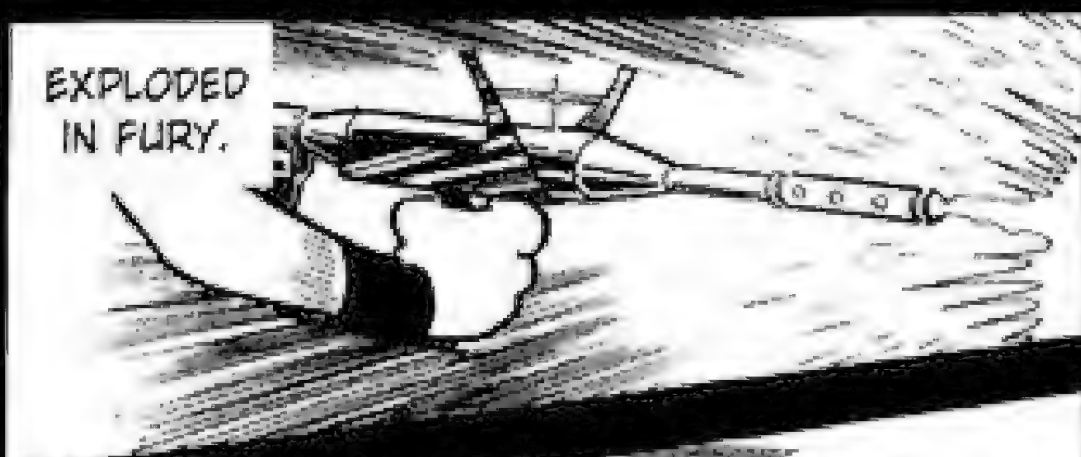
"WHAT HAD BEEN
FEARED FINALLY
HAPPENED...
SOMEONE FROM
THE VILLAGE
SAW MAKIMURA
ACTUALLY
CUTTING UP
LADA'S BODY
AND GRILLING
HER LEGS
FOR DINNER!"



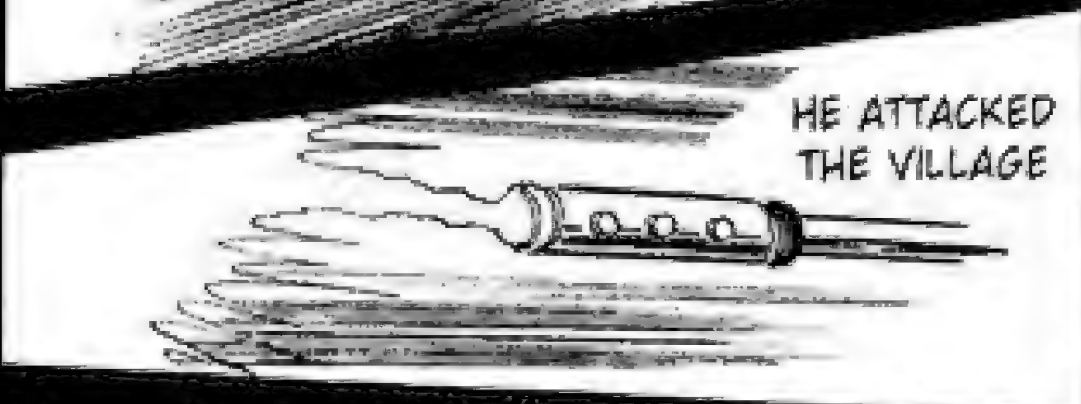
THE
CRUEL
SIDE
OF HIS
CHARACTER



EXPLODED
IN FURY.



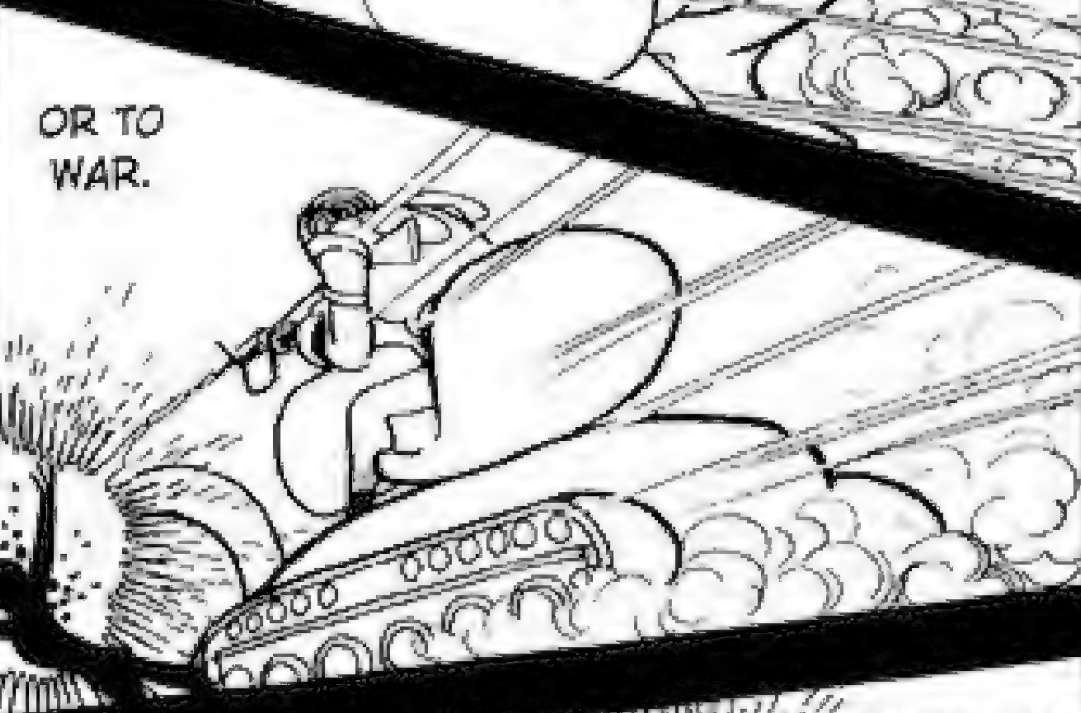
HE ATTACKED
THE VILLAGE



AS IF HE
WAS GOING
HUNTING

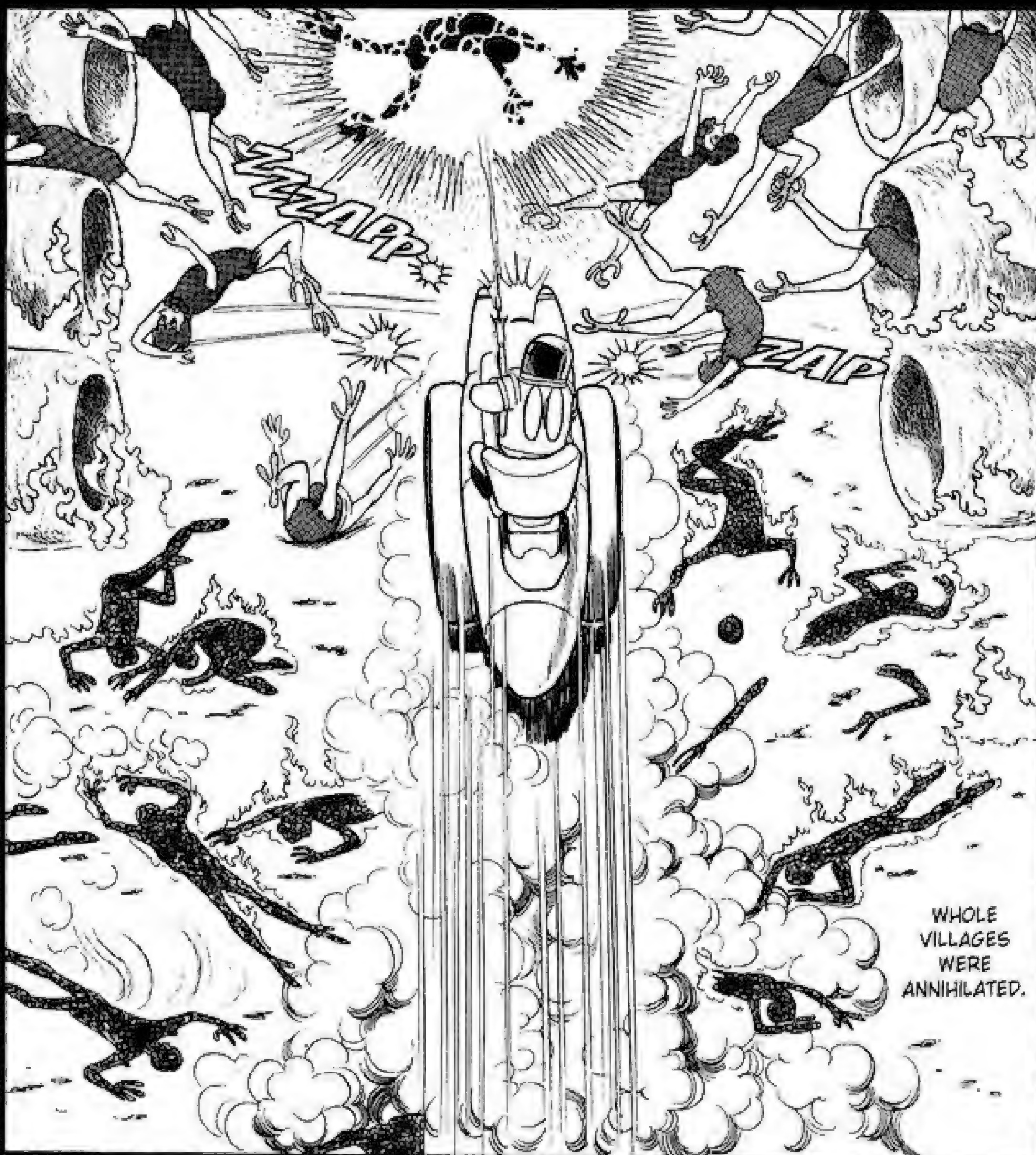


OR TO
WAR.



"HE CEASED
TO REGARD
THE PEOPLE
OF FREMIL
AS HUMANS
AND SAW
THEM AS
MERE
ANIMALS."



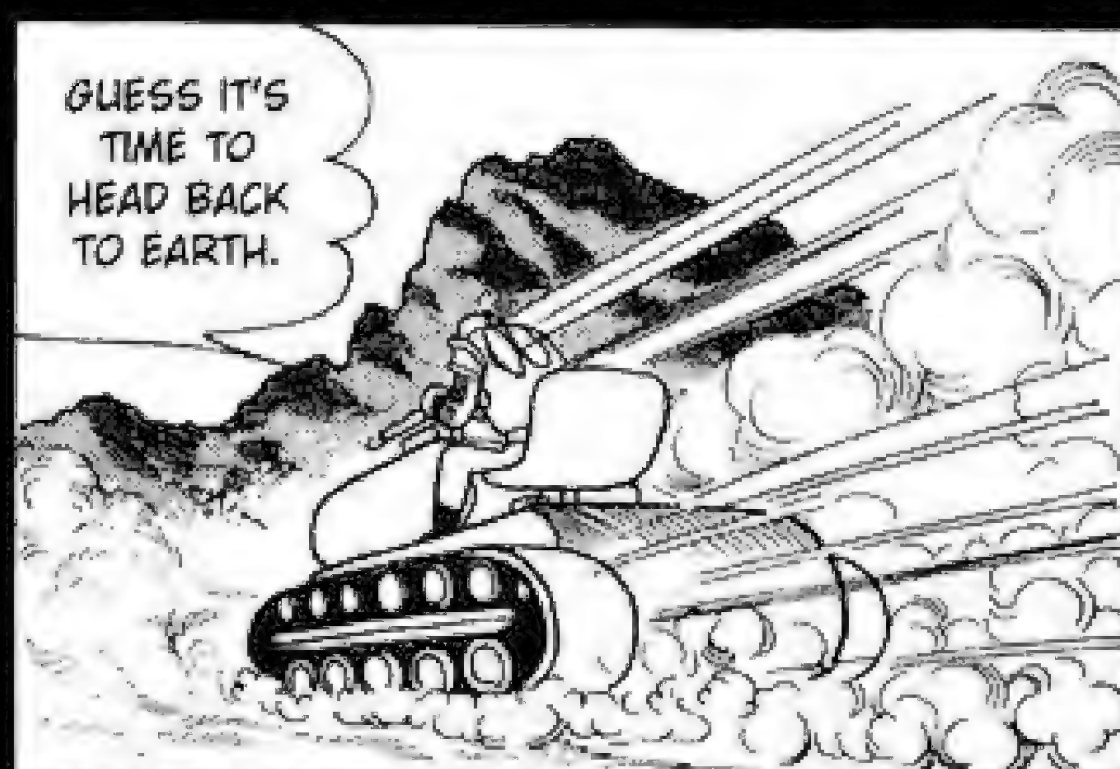


WHOLE
VILLAGES
WERE
ANNIHILATED.



WELL, I
BAGGED 52
BIRDS
TODAY.

I'VE JUST
ABOUT RUN
OUT OF
THINGS TO
SHOOT ON
THIS PLANET.



GUESS IT'S
TIME TO
HEAD BACK
TO EARTH.





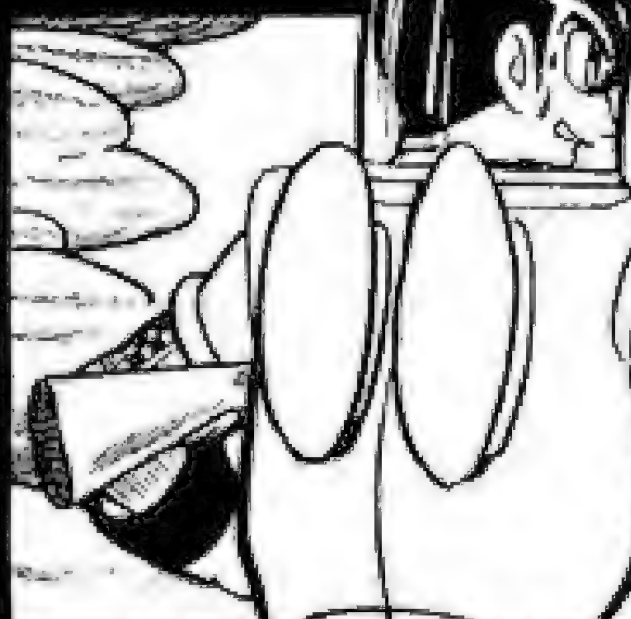
HAH!
SEE?!
NO
EFFECT
AT ALL!!



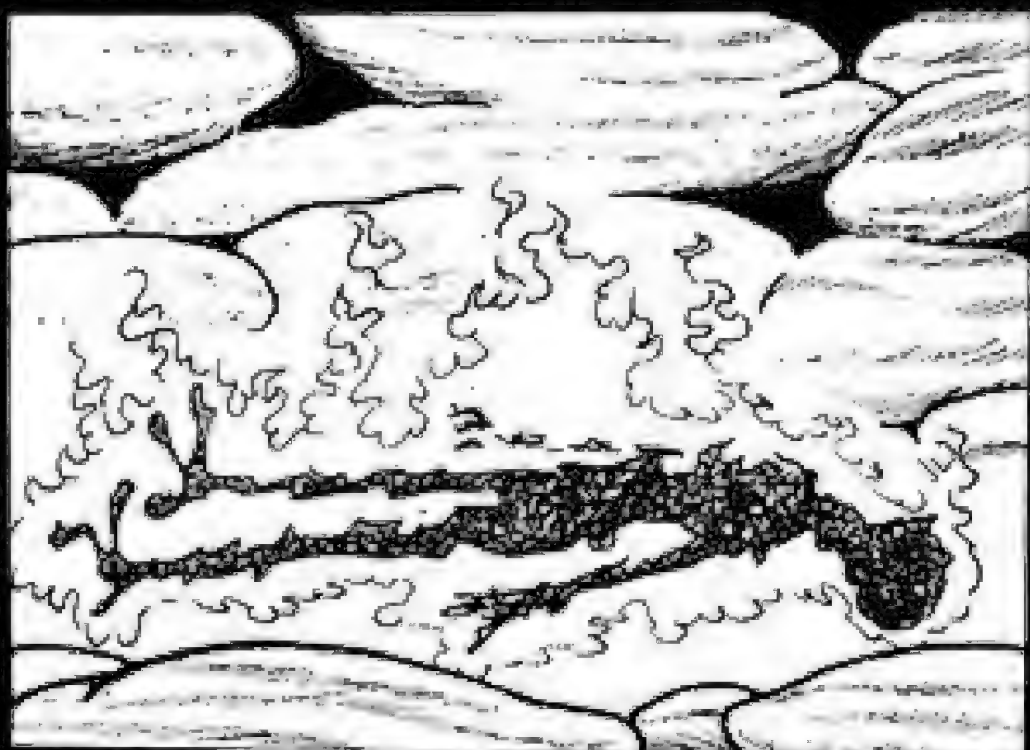
NOW
YOU'LL GET
WHAT'S
COMING TO
YOU...



heh heh

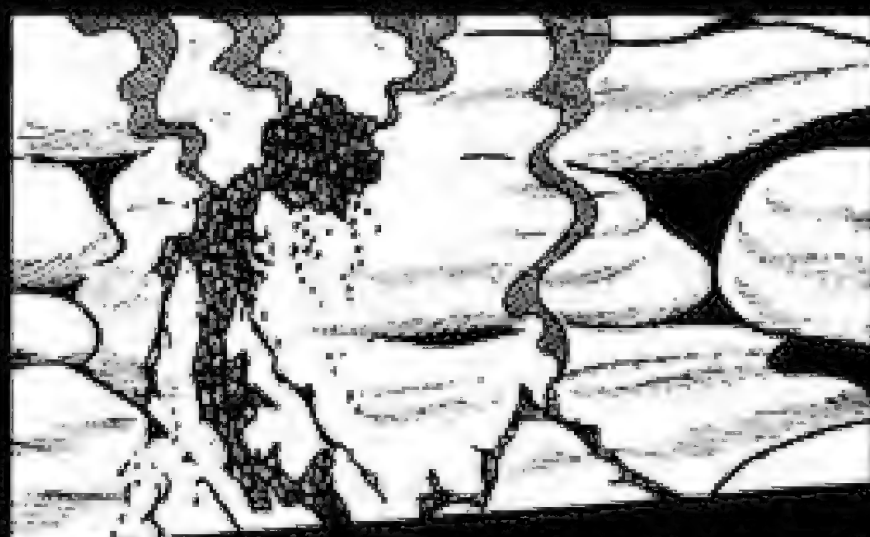
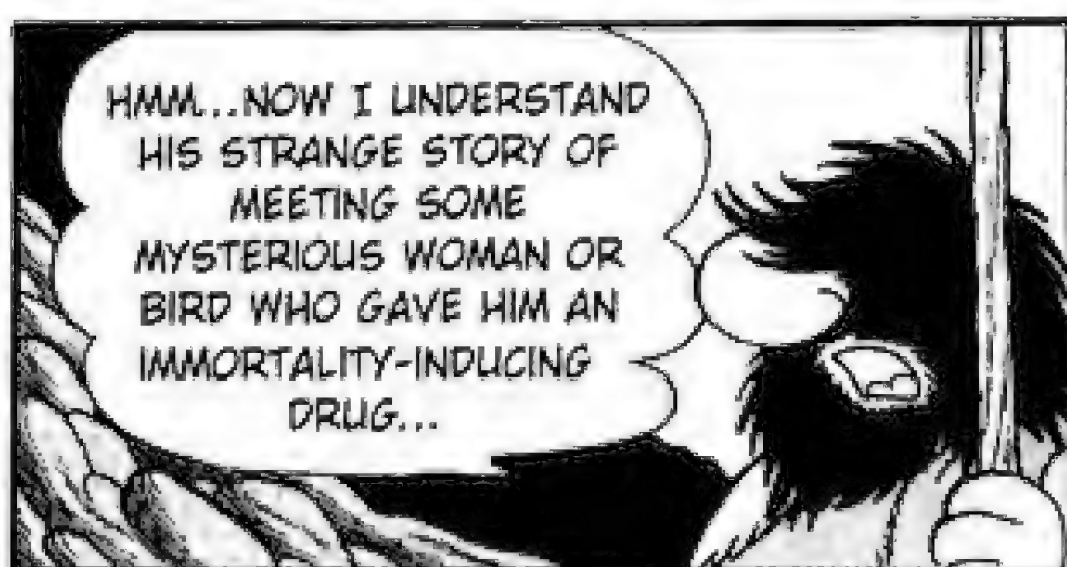


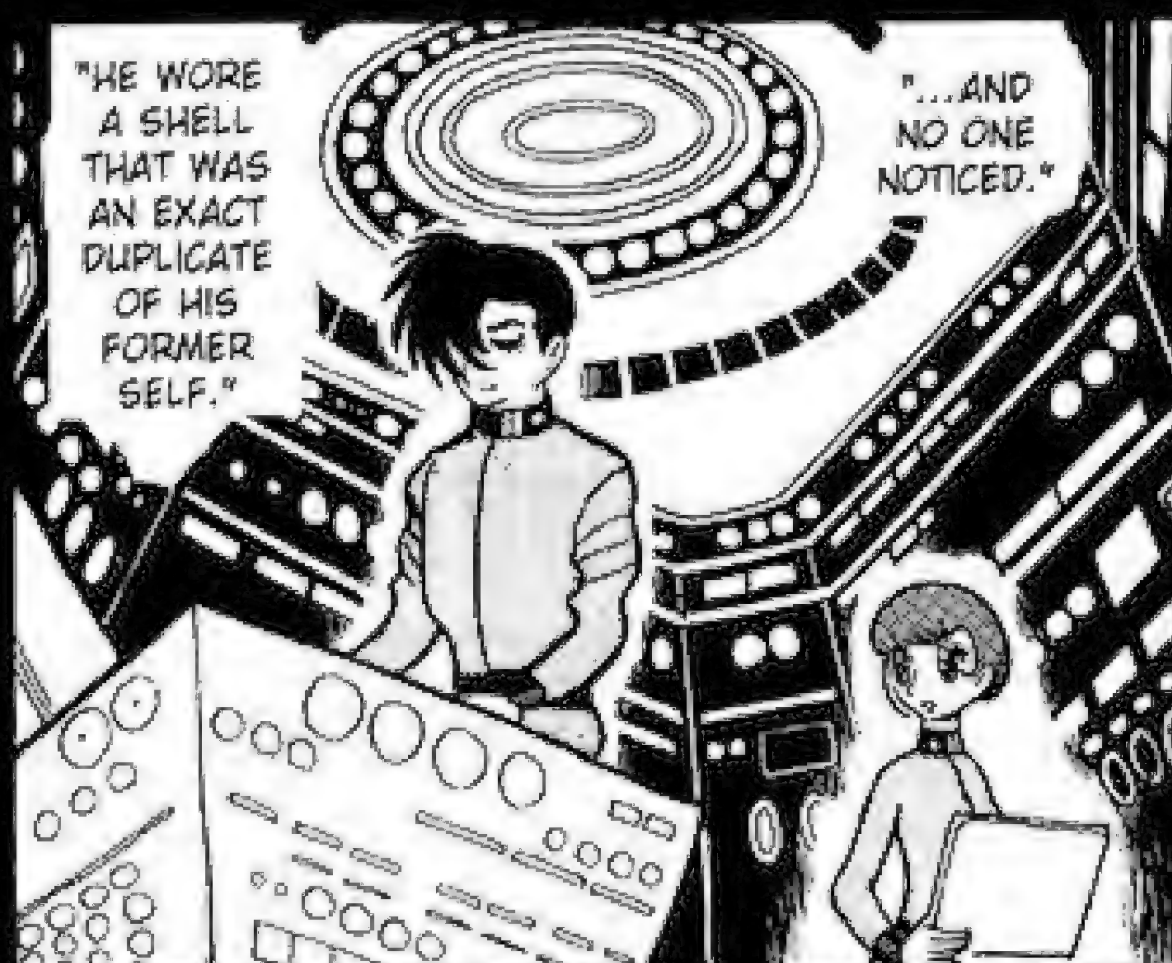
WHAT ARE YOU LAUGHING AT?!



NO!
IT'S...
IT'S
COMING
BACK TO
LIFE!!







"HE WORE
A SHELL
THAT WAS
AN EXACT
DUPLICATE
OF HIS
FORMER
SELF."

"...AND
NO ONE
NOTICED."



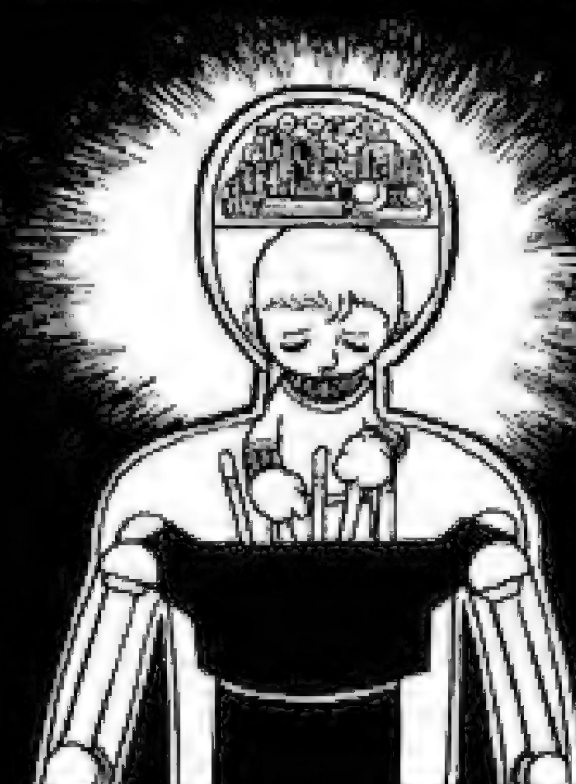
A
SHELL
?!



"HIS HEAD
CONTAINED A
COMPUTER..."



"AH... SO
THAT'S
WHAT
NANA WAS
TALKING
ABOUT!"



"HE GREW
YOUNGER
EVERY DAY
AND
FINALLY
BECAME
AN
INFANT."

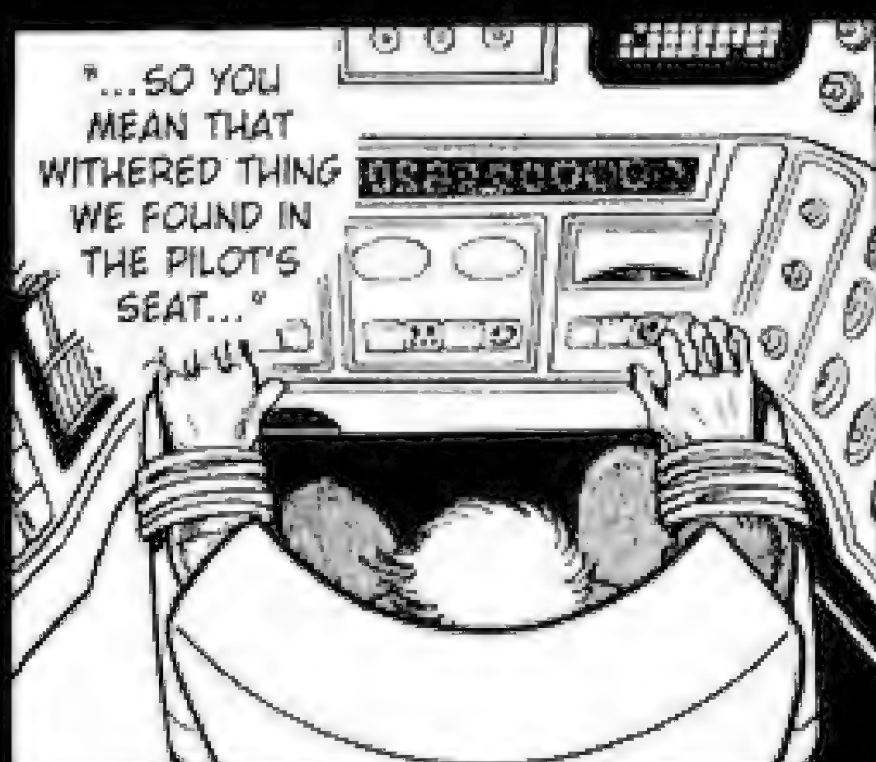


"AND IN
IS LAST
CONSCIOUS
MOMENTS HE
SCRAWLED
A NOTE..."

"REALIZING
FOR THE
FIRST TIME
WHAT HIS
TRUE
PUNISH-
MENT
WAS..."



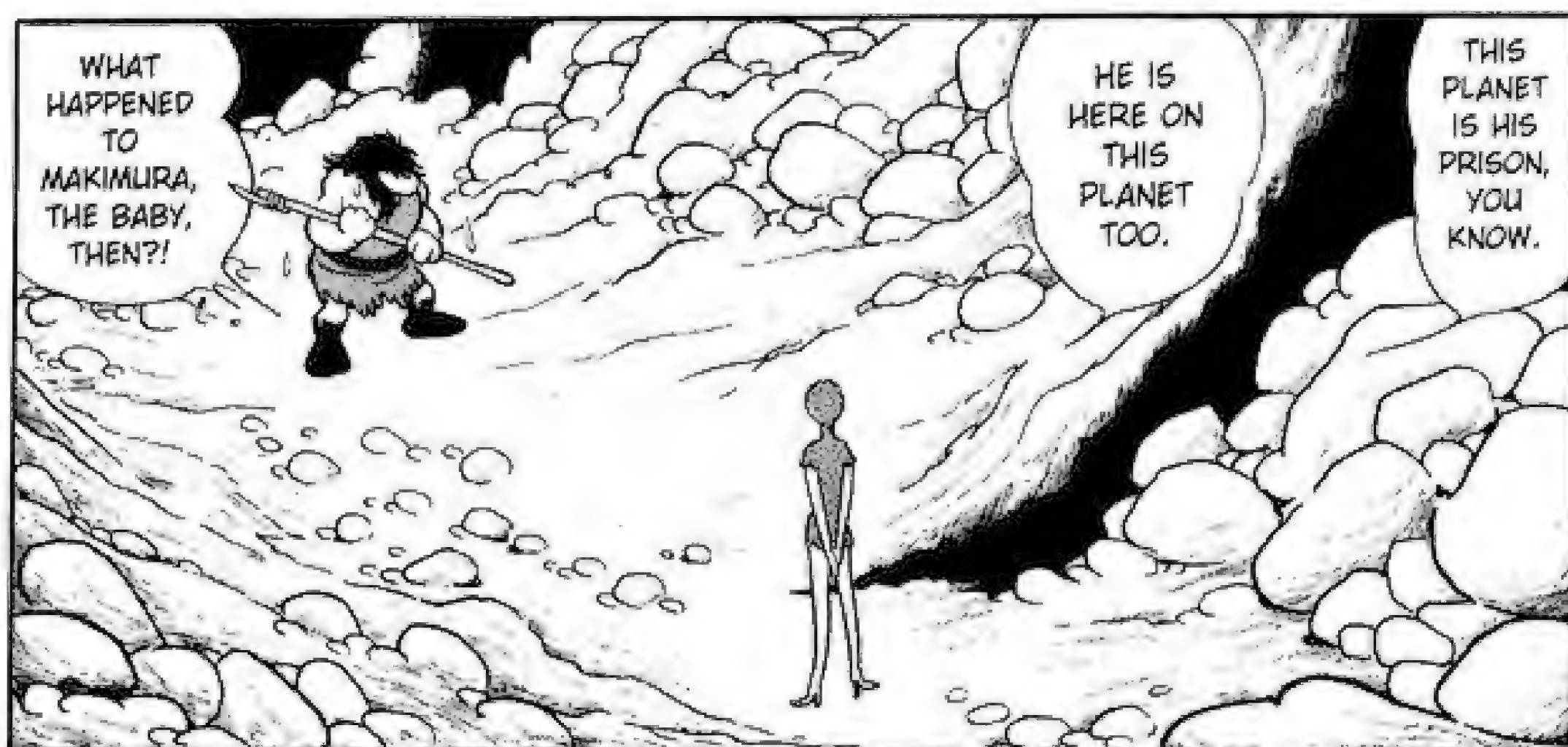
I am
being
murdered

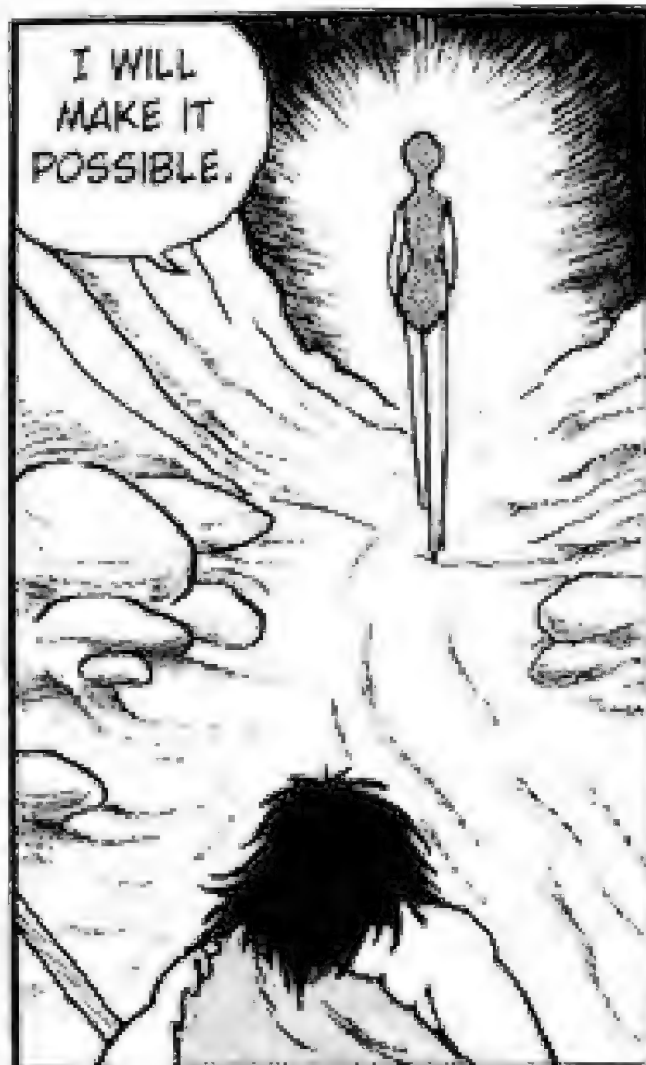
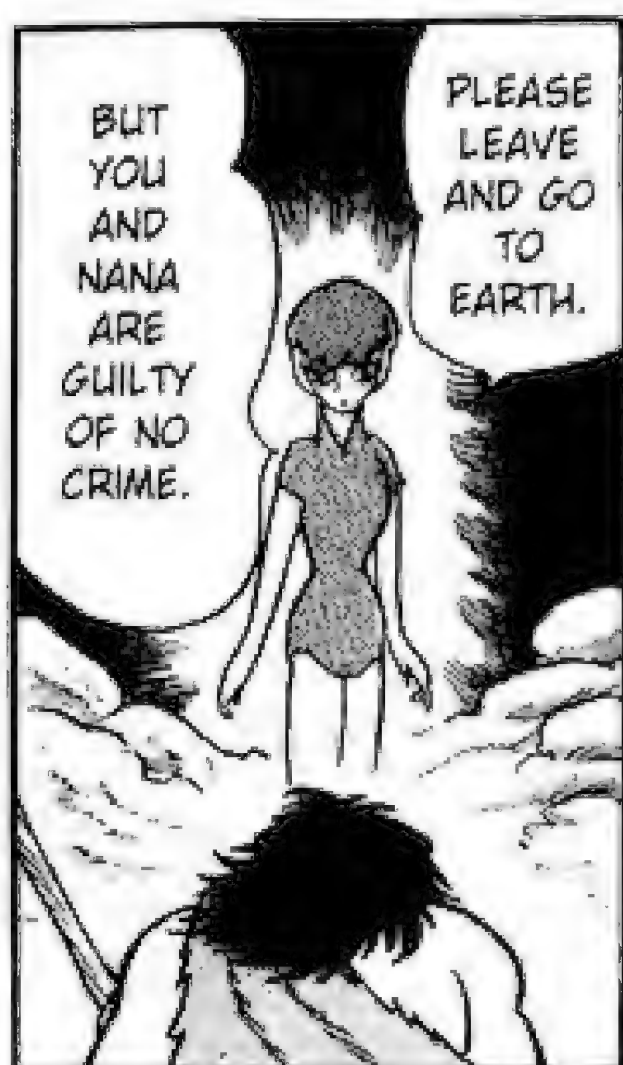
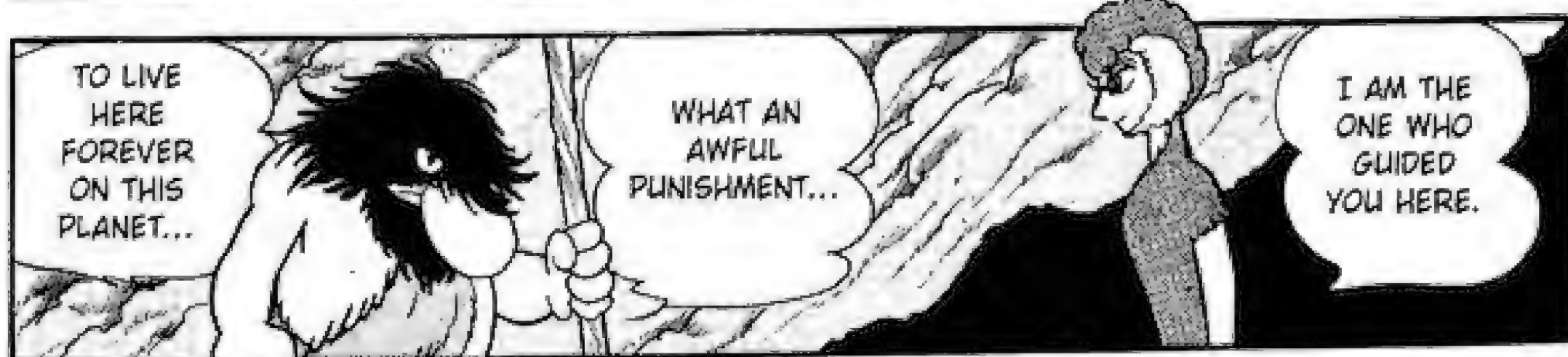
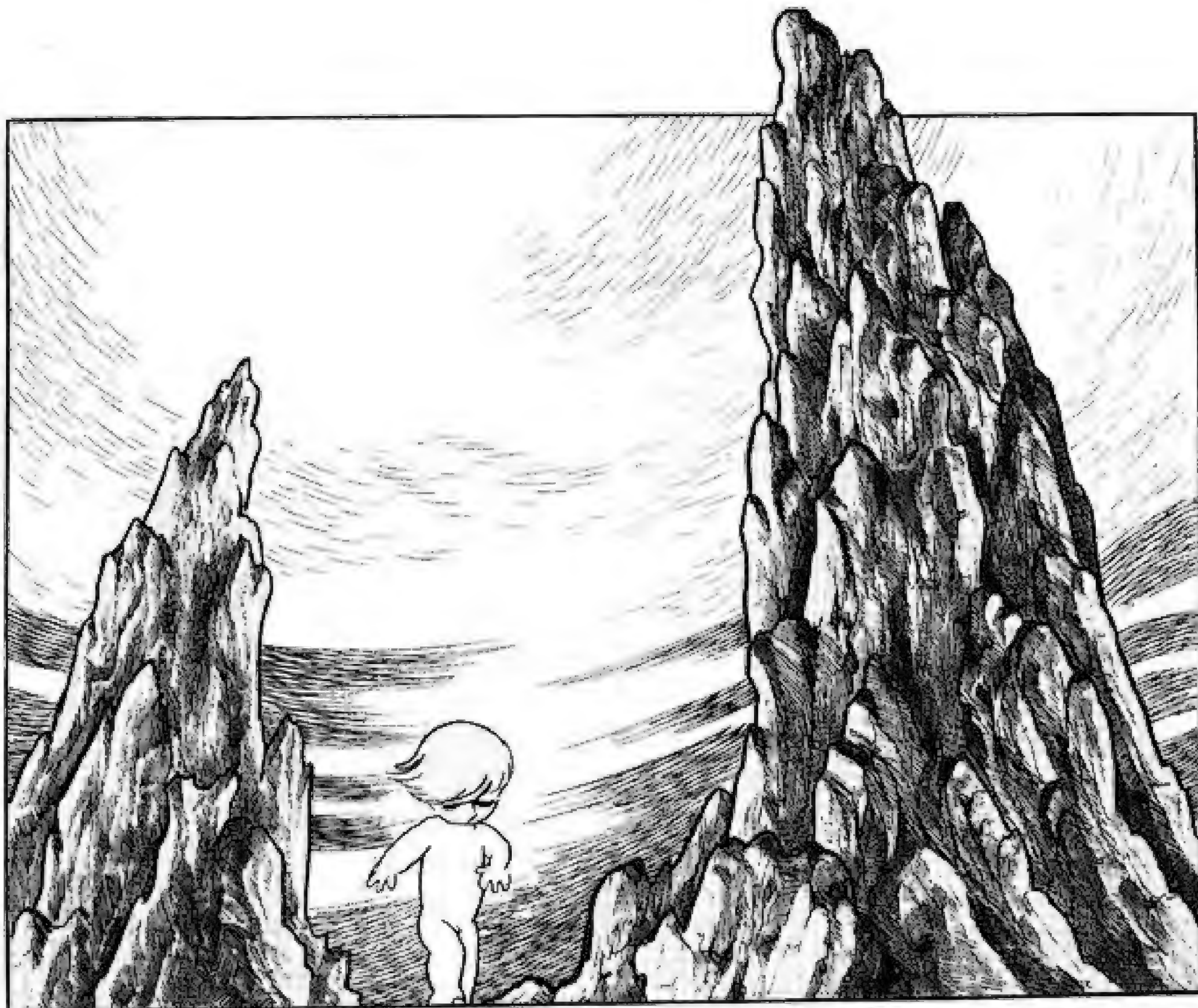


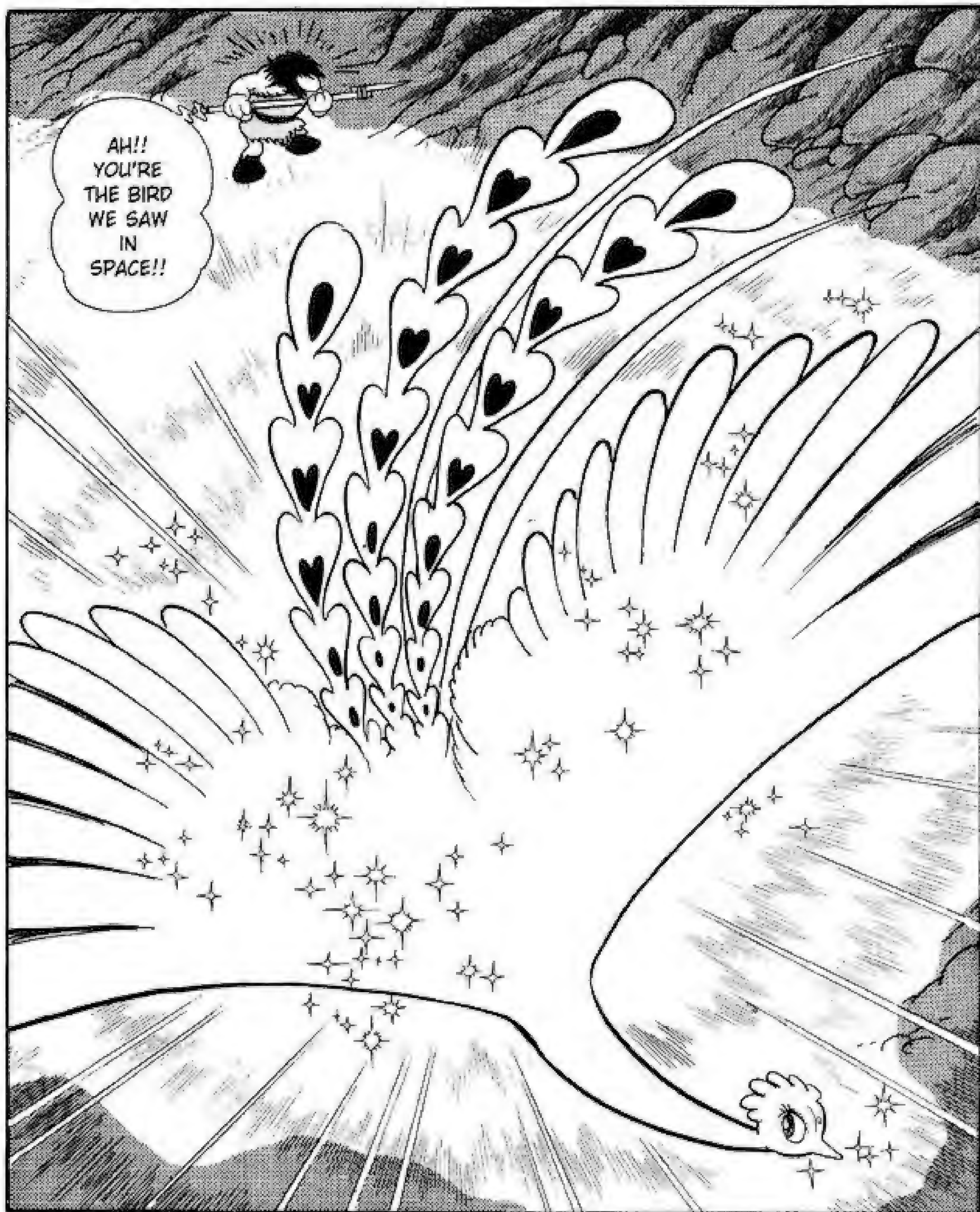
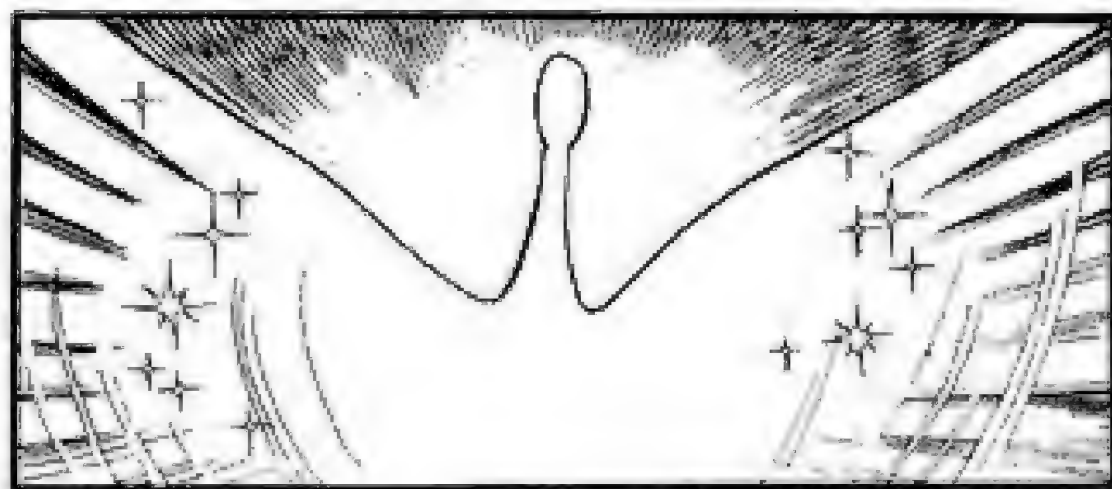
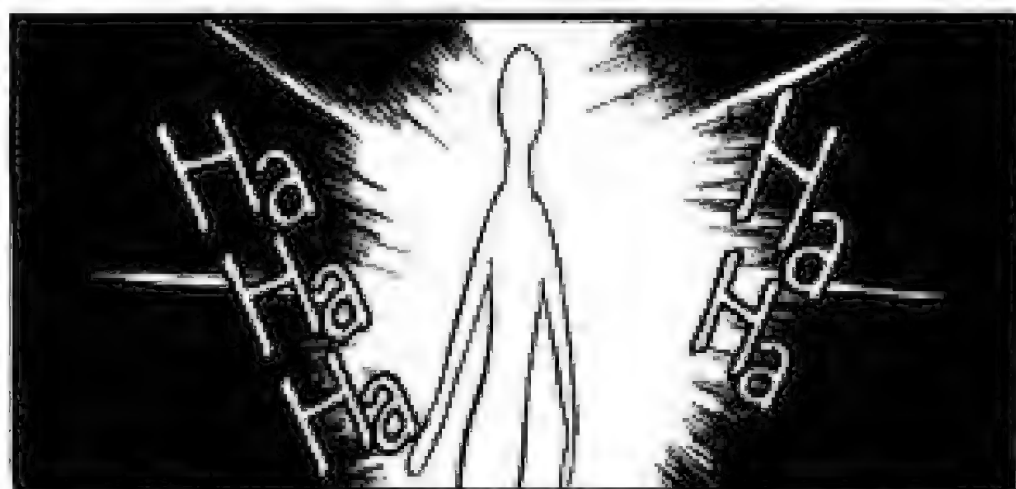
"...SO YOU
MEAN THAT
WITHERED THING
WE FOUND IN
THE PILOT'S
SEAT..."

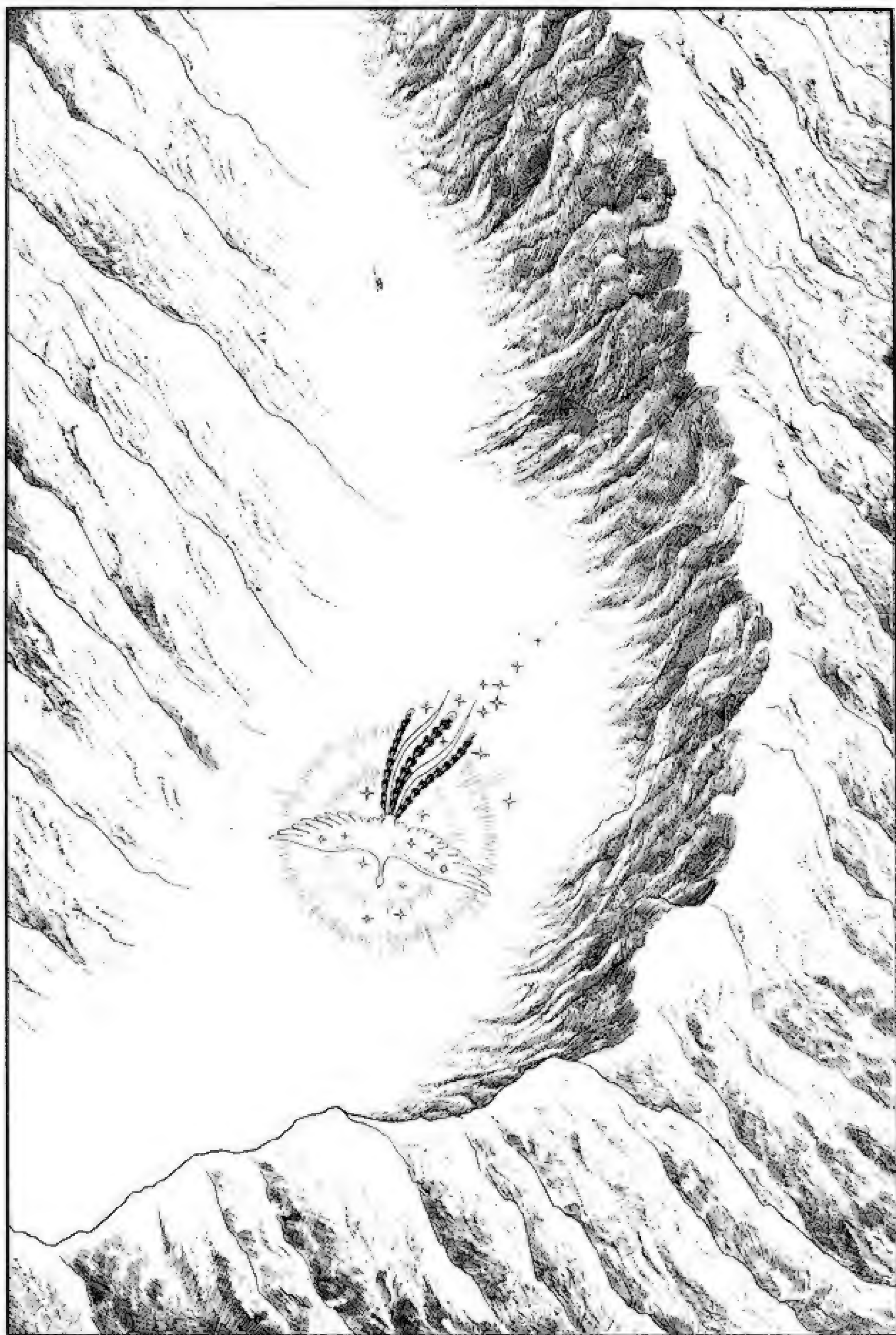


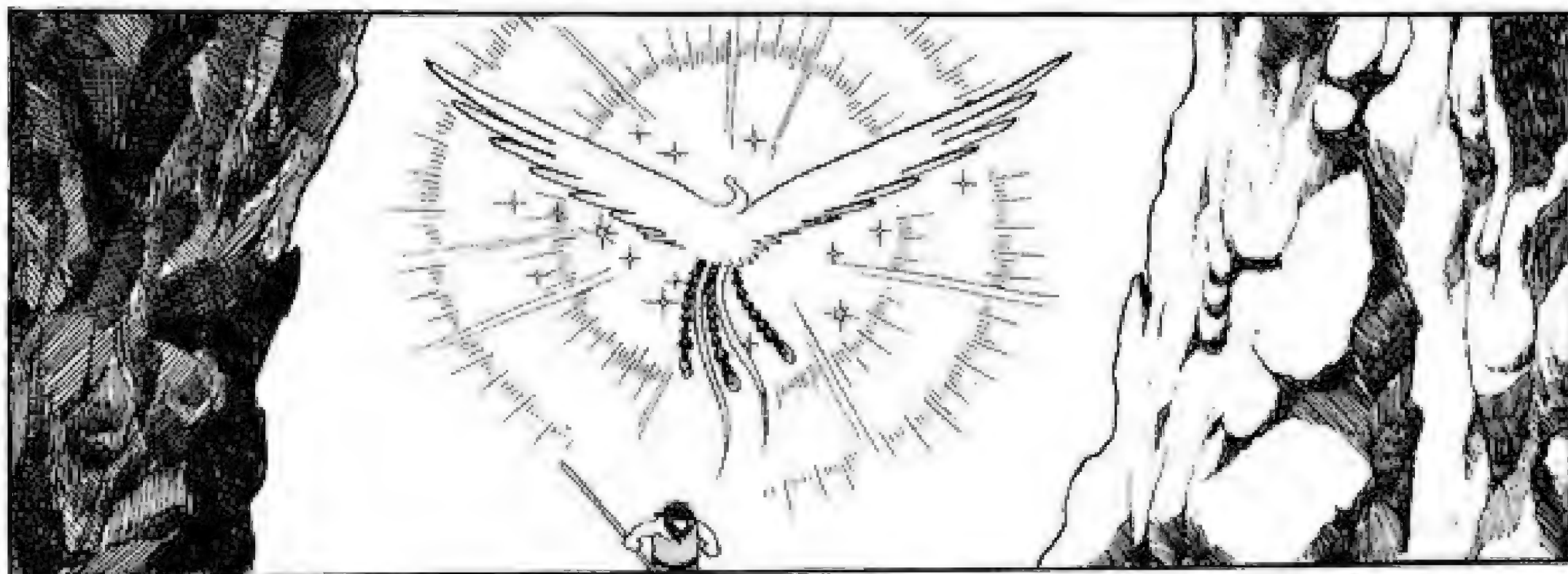
"...WAS REALLY
ONLY A CAST-
OFF SHELL?!"







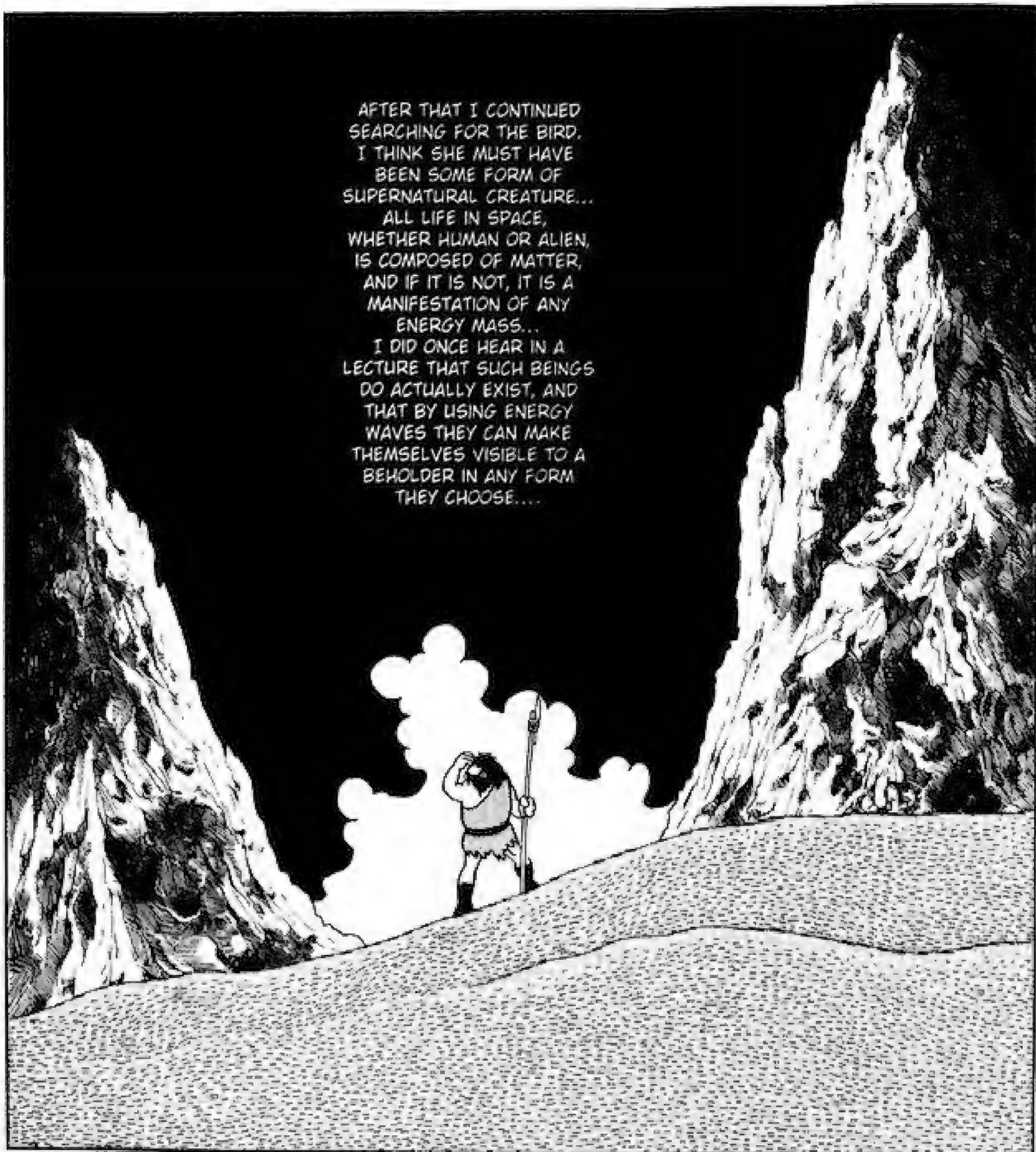


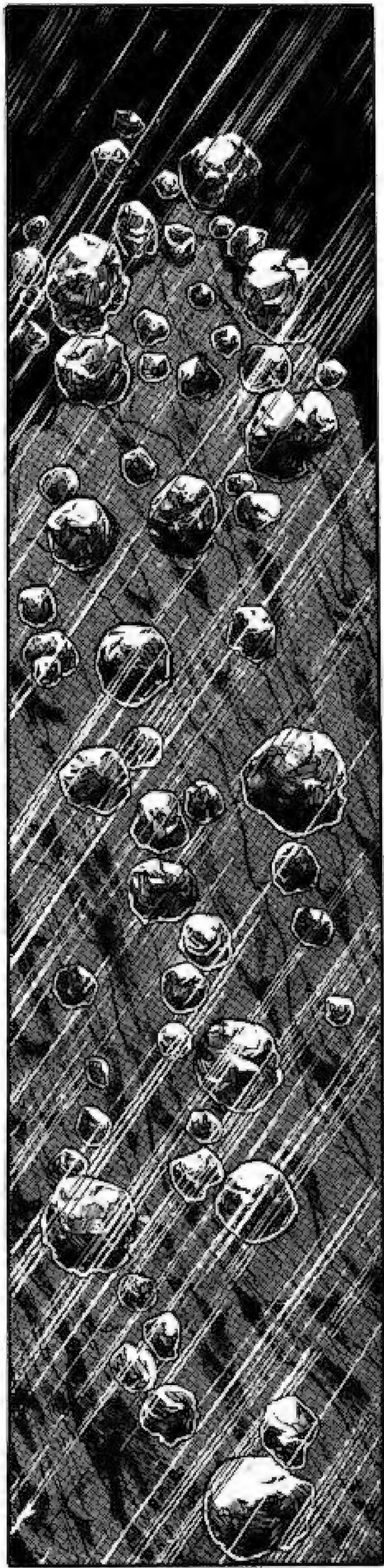
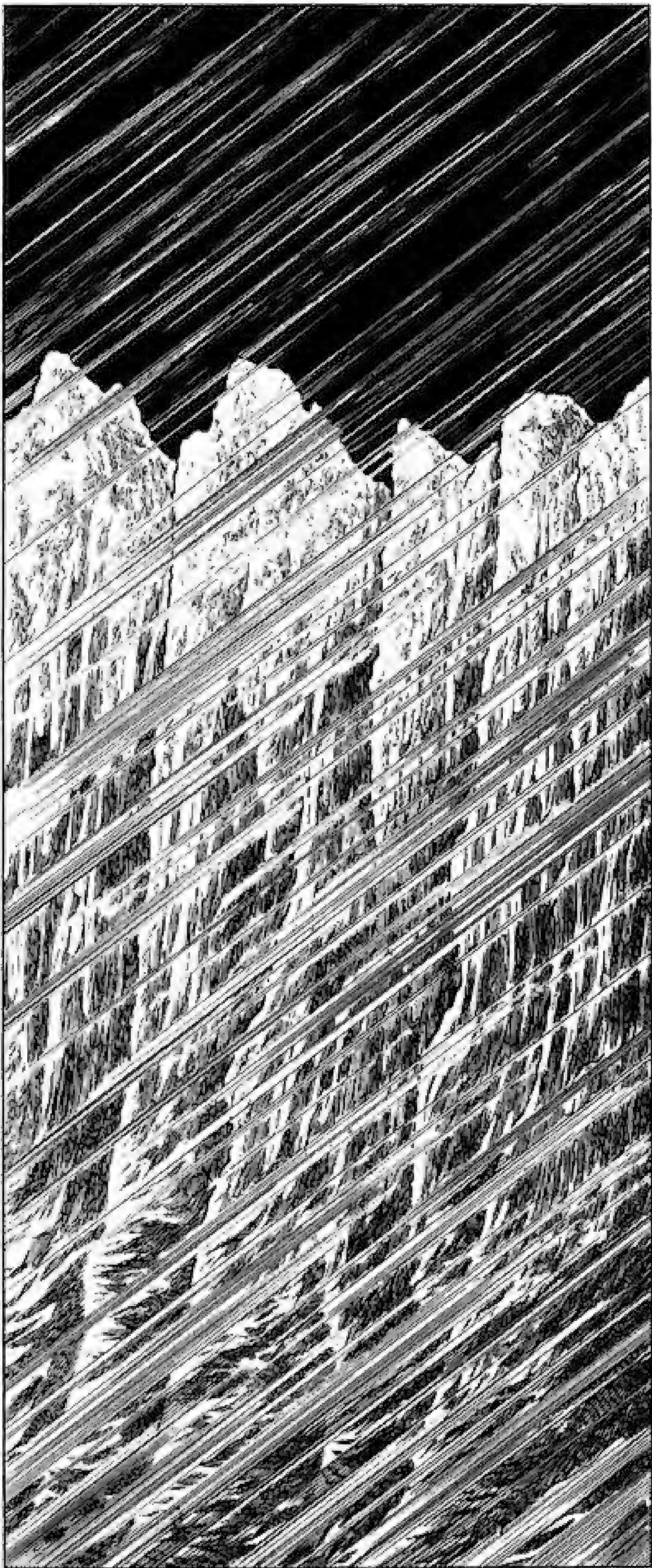


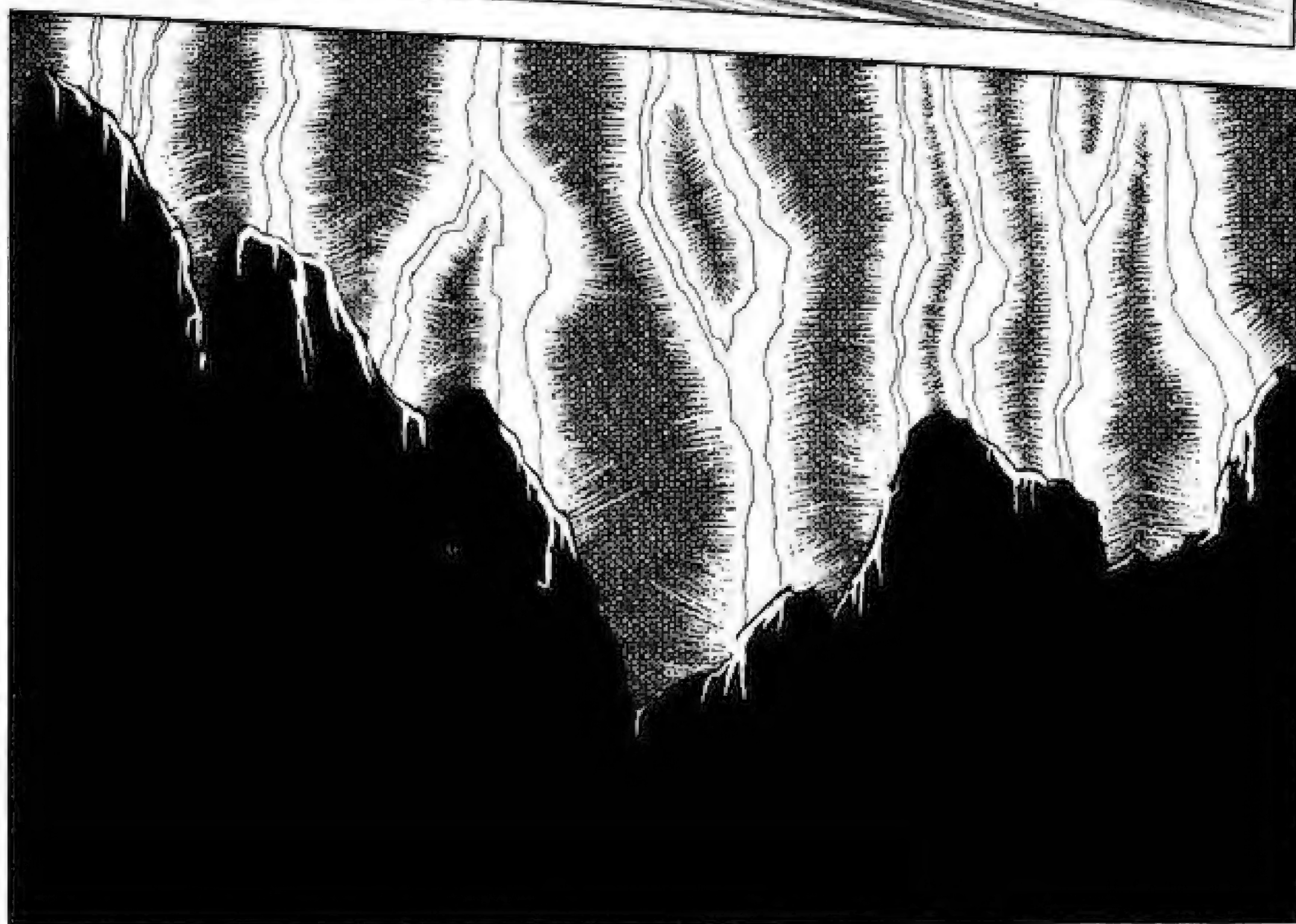
AFTER THAT I CONTINUED
SEARCHING FOR THE BIRD.
I THINK SHE MUST HAVE
BEEN SOME FORM OF
SUPERNATURAL CREATURE...

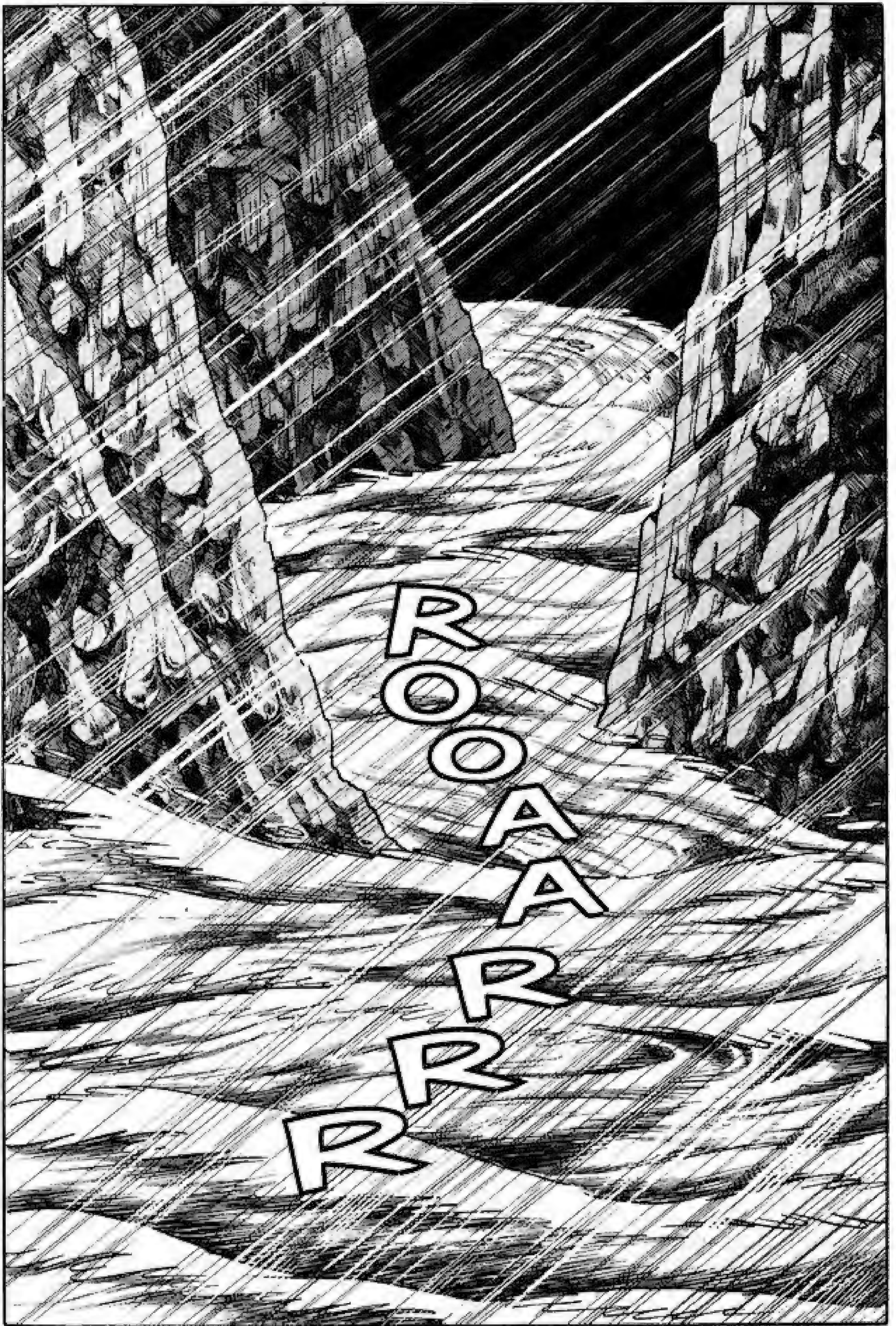
ALL LIFE IN SPACE,
WHETHER HUMAN OR ALIEN,
IS COMPOSED OF MATTER,
AND IF IT IS NOT, IT IS A
MANIFESTATION OF ANY
ENERGY MASS...

I DID ONCE HEAR IN A
LECTURE THAT SUCH BEINGS
DO ACTUALLY EXIST, AND
THAT BY USING ENERGY
WAVES THEY CAN MAKE
THEMSELVES VISIBLE TO A
BEHOLDER IN ANY FORM
THEY CHOOSE....

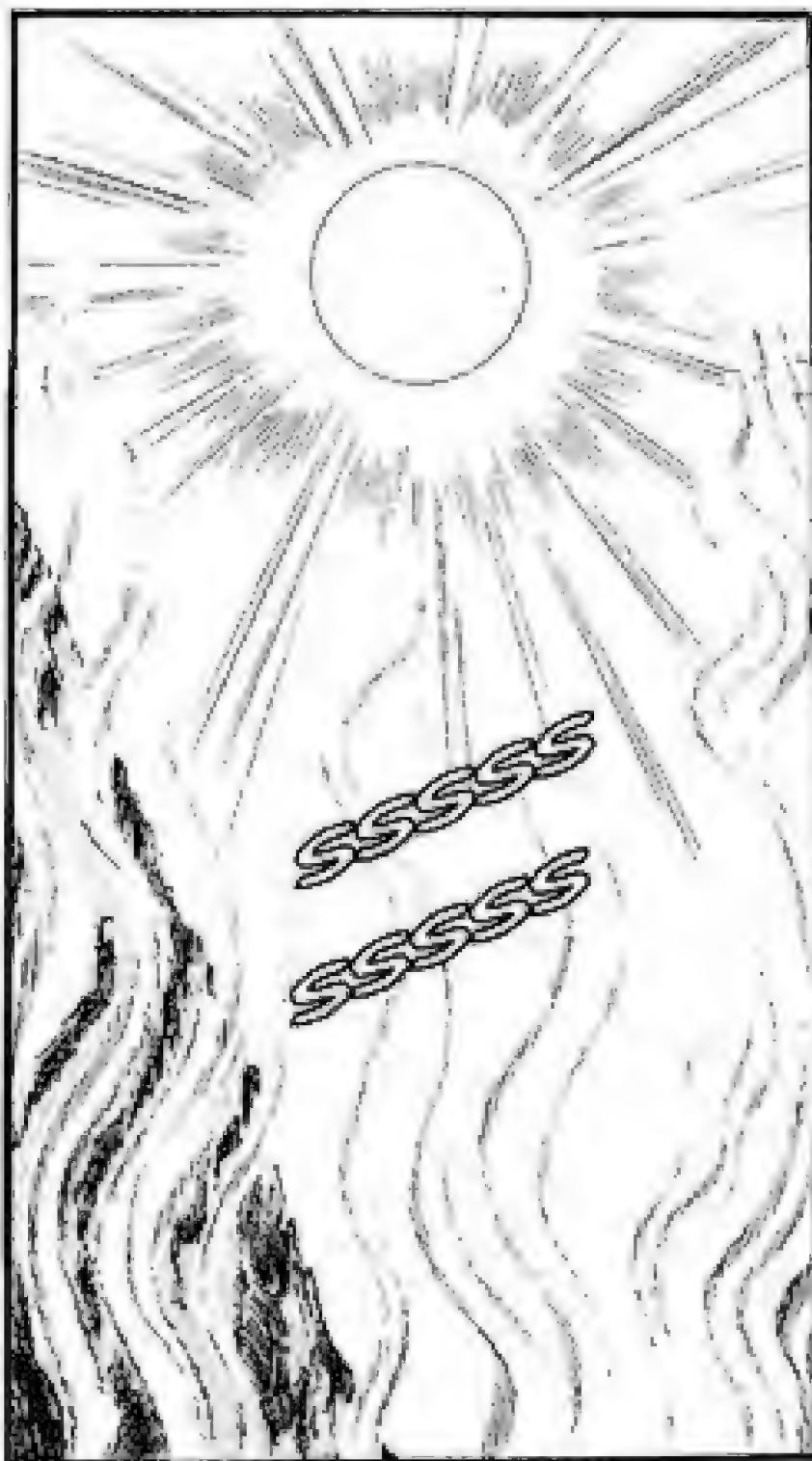




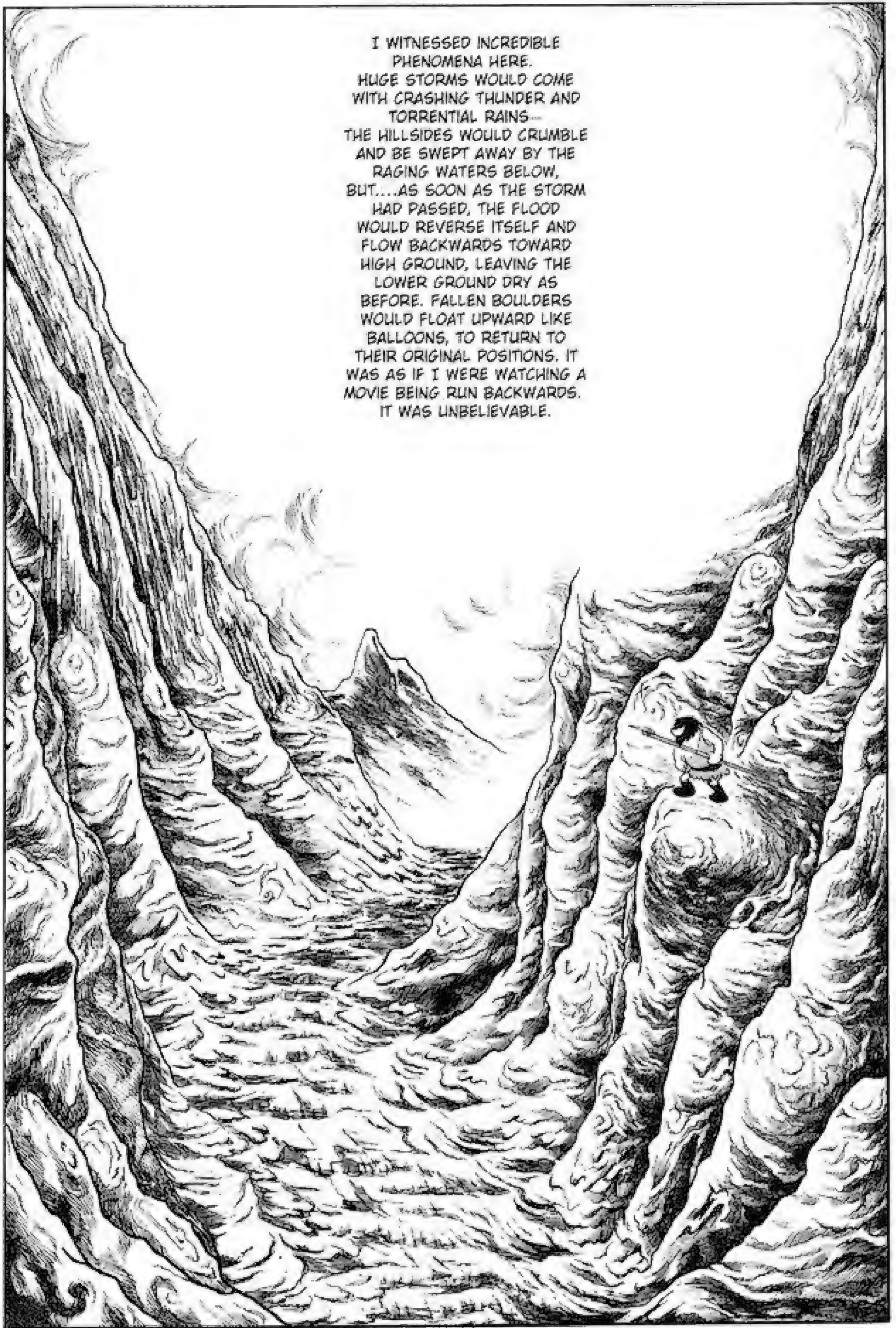






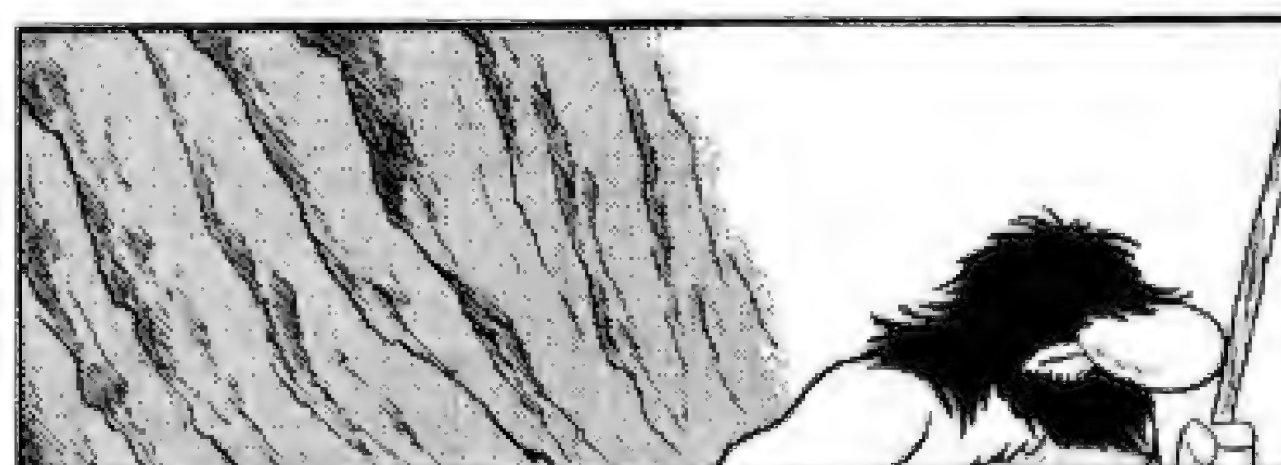


I WITNESSED INCREDIBLE
PHENOMENA HERE.
HUGE STORMS WOULD COME
WITH CRASHING THUNDER AND
TORRENTIAL RAINS—
THE HILLSIDES WOULD CRUMBLE
AND BE SWEEPED AWAY BY THE
RAGING WATERS BELOW,
BUT...AS SOON AS THE STORM
HAD PASSED, THE FLOOD
WOULD REVERSE ITSELF AND
FLOW BACKWARDS TOWARD
HIGH GROUND, LEAVING THE
LOWER GROUND DRY AS
BEFORE. FALLEN BOULDERS
WOULD FLOAT UPWARD LIKE
BALLOONS, TO RETURN TO
THEIR ORIGINAL POSITIONS. IT
WAS AS IF I WERE WATCHING A
MOVIE BEING RUN BACKWARDS.
IT WAS UNBELIEVABLE.

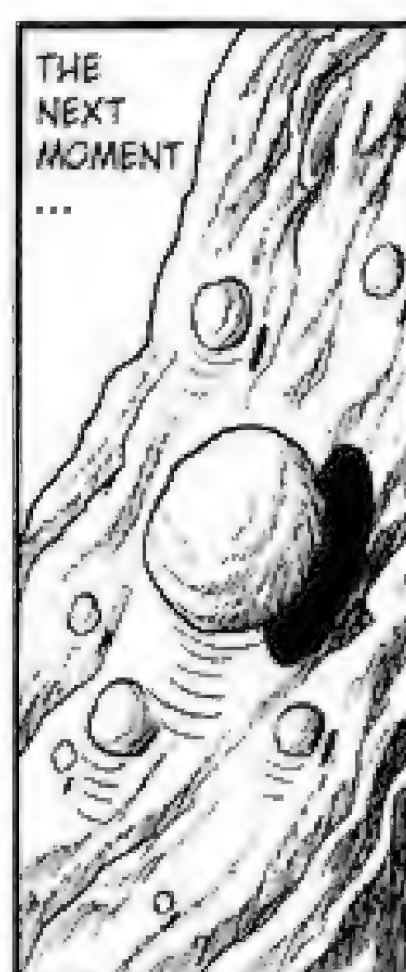




BUT IT WAS
ALL UNREAL...
NATURE COULD
NEVER BE THIS
PERVERSE
UNLESS MADE
SO BY DESIGN.



IF A
BOULDER IS
DISLODGED
...



THE
NEXT
MOMENT
...



IT CRAZILY
RETURNS
TO ITS
ORIGINAL
POSITION.







WHO'S THERE?!



NANA,
IT'S
ME!

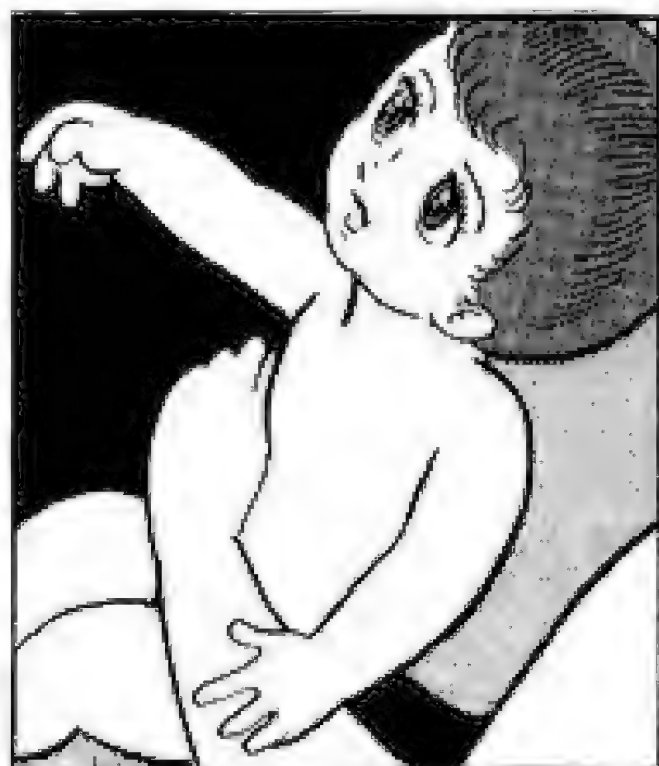
SARUTA!



I KNEW
WE'D MEET
EVENTUALLY,
BUT I JUST
COULDN'T FIND
YOU ANYWHERE.

...IS ...IS
THAT
MAKIMURA?

YES... ISN'T
HE CUTE?!



YEAH...
YOU
CAN
STILL
TELL
IT'S
HIM...



DO YOU KNOW
HOW THIS ALL
CAME ABOUT?

YES...
PRETTY
MUCH...



THE BIRD OF
FIRE CAME
HERE...

ALTHOUGH I'M
NOT SURE I
SHOULD CALL
HER A "BIRD"
...

I THINK SHE'S
SOMETHING
ELSE... SHE
SPOKE TO ME
BY TELEPATHY.



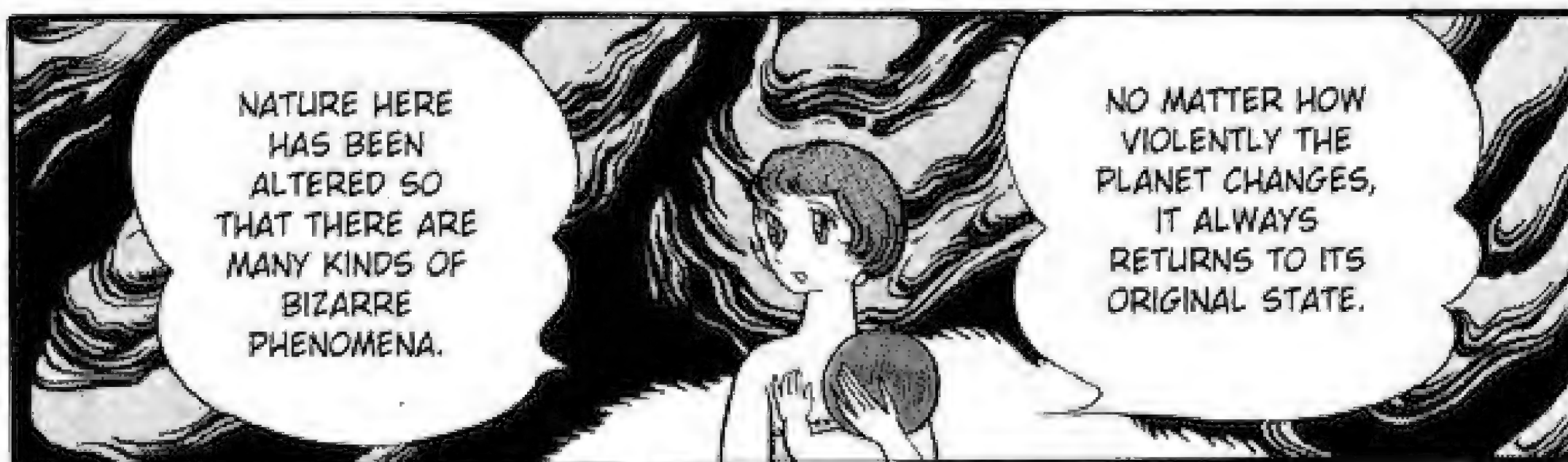
DID SHE
TELL YOU
MAKIMURA'S
A PRISONER
HERE!?

YES...AND
THAT THIS
PLANET IS
HIS
PRISON!



THAT'S RIGHT,
AND HE'S
DOOMED TO
GROW OLD AND
THEN YOUNG IN
AN ETERNAL
CYCLE!

THAT'S NOT
THE ONLY
THING
STRANGE
ABOUT THIS
PLANET...



NATURE HERE
HAS BEEN
ALTERED SO
THAT THERE ARE
MANY KINDS OF
BIZARRE
PHENOMENA.

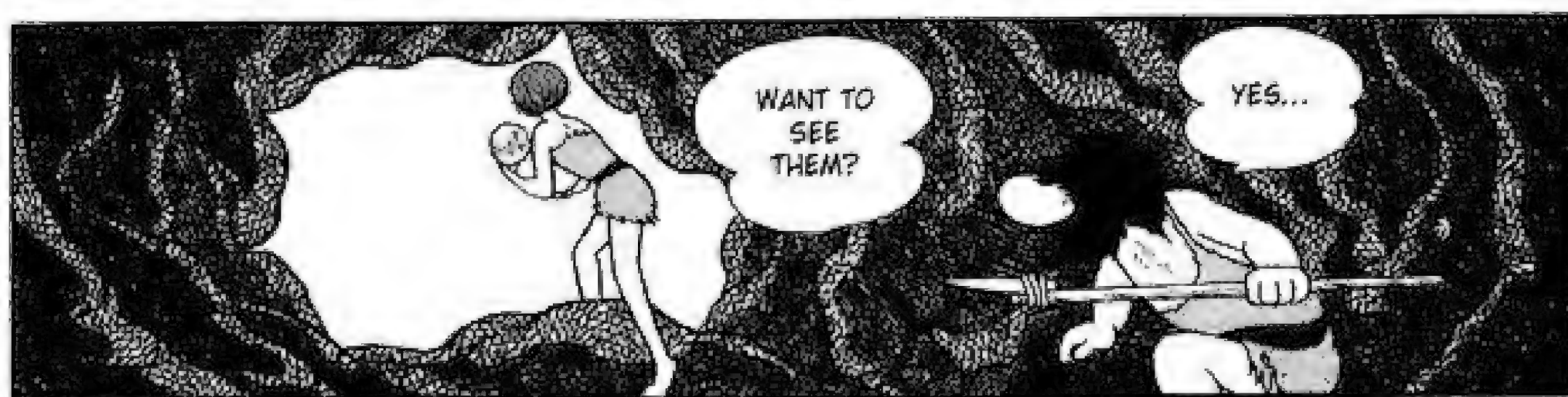
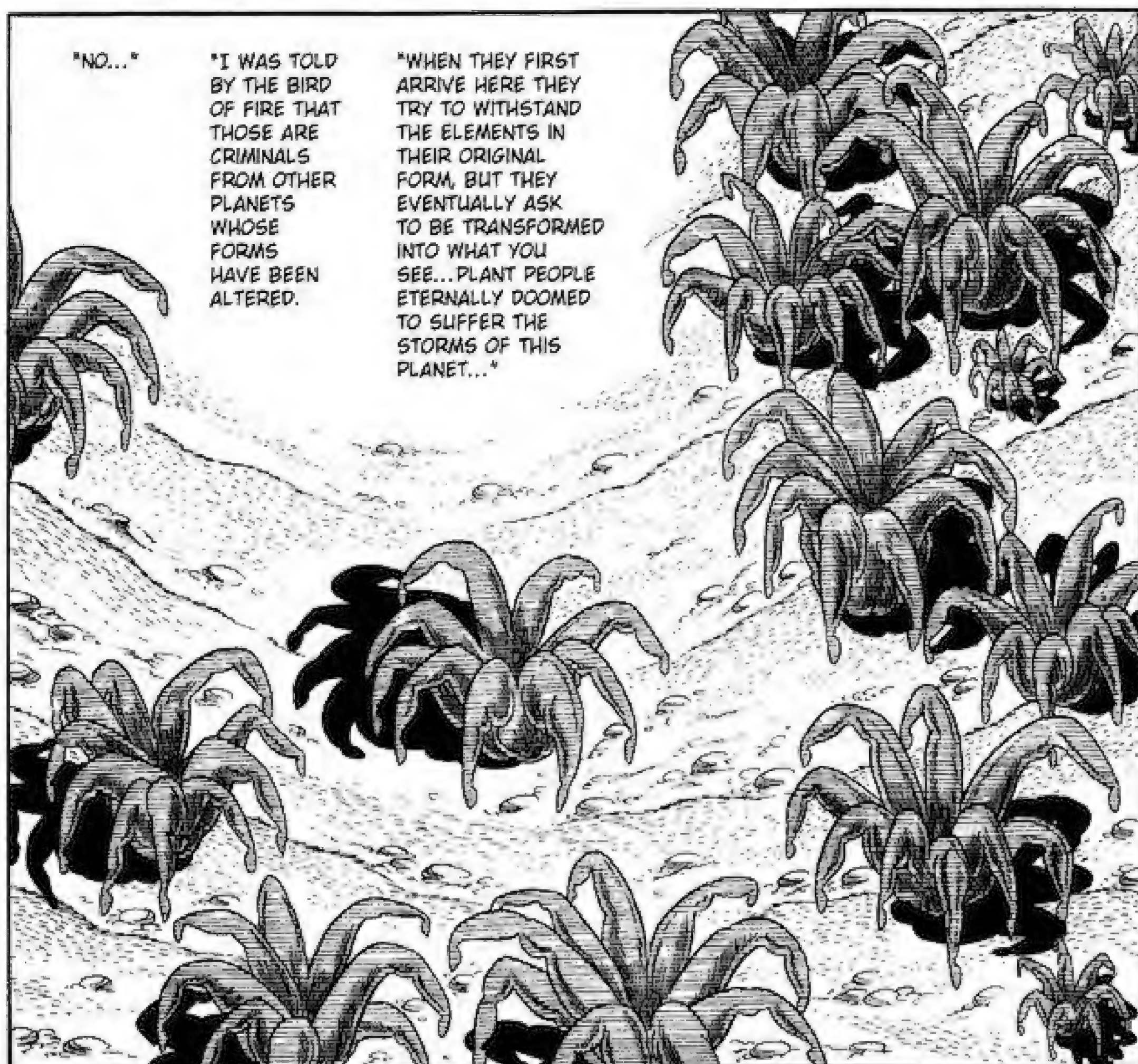
NO MATTER HOW
VIOLENTLY THE
PLANET CHANGES,
IT ALWAYS
RETURNS TO ITS
ORIGINAL STATE.

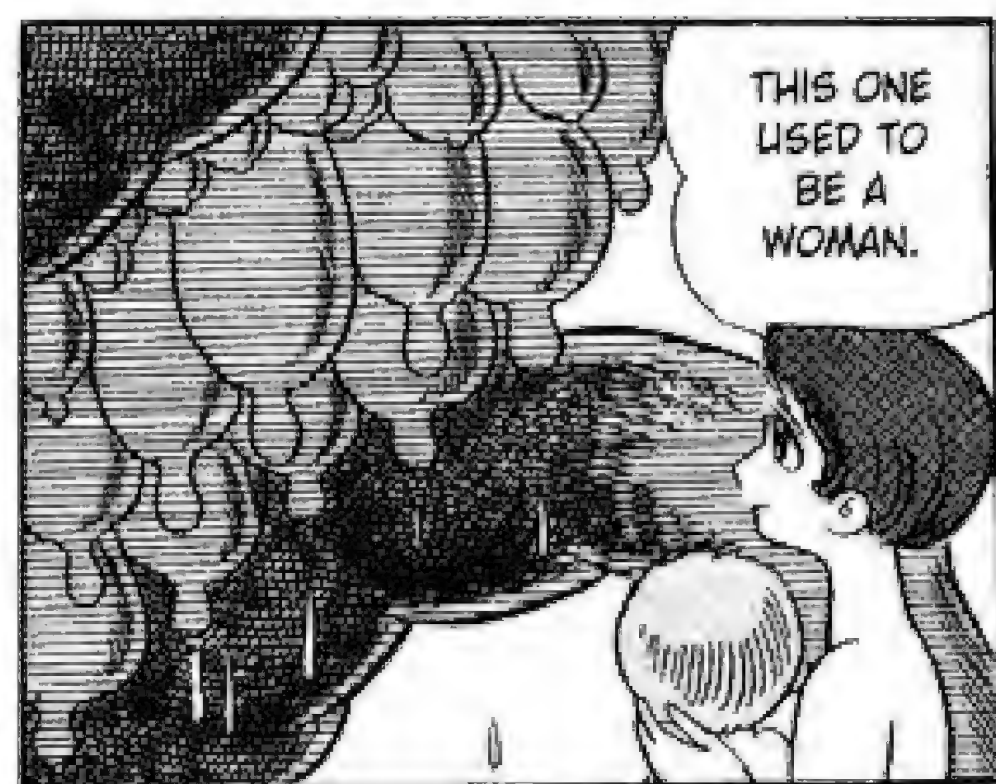


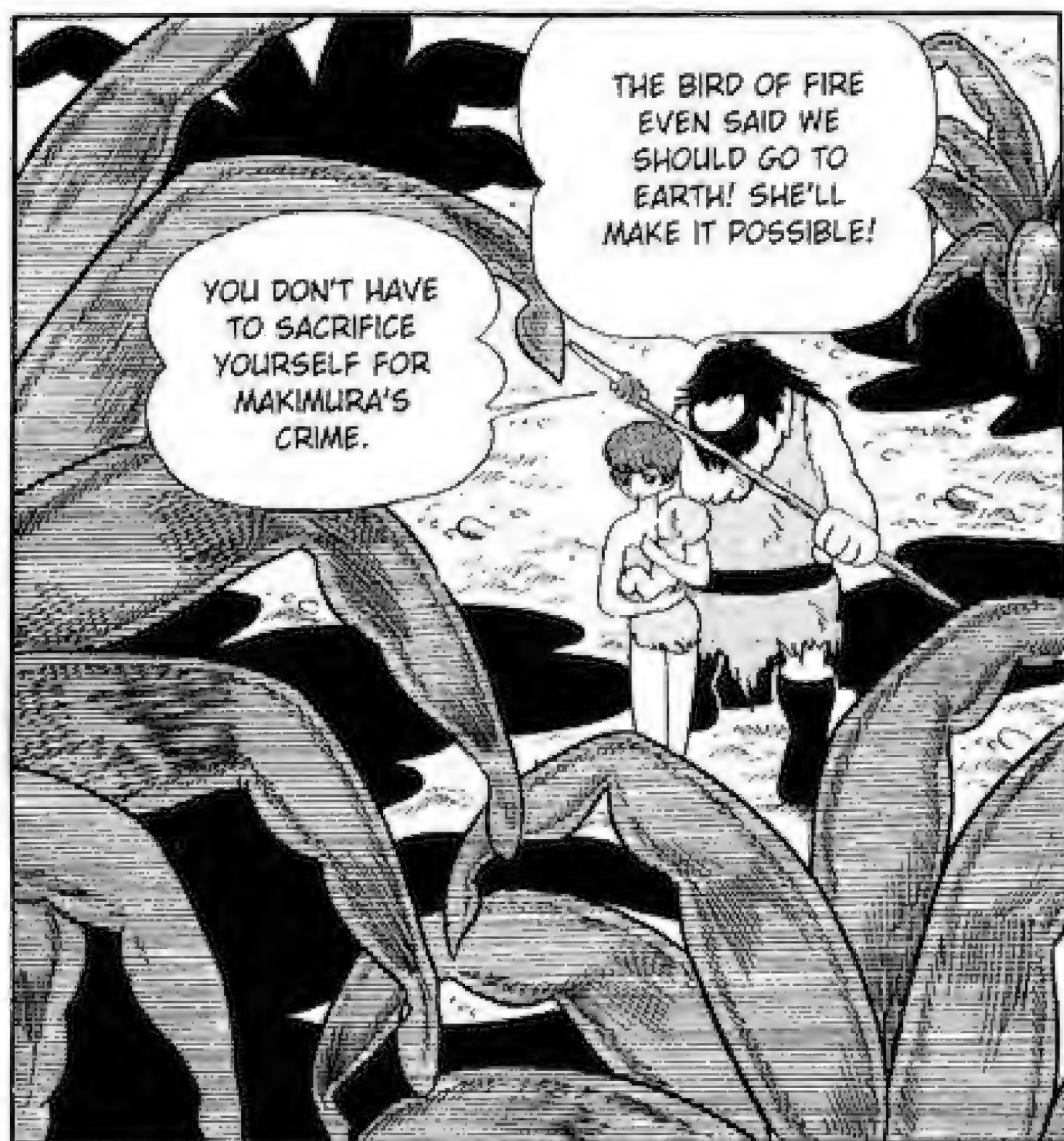
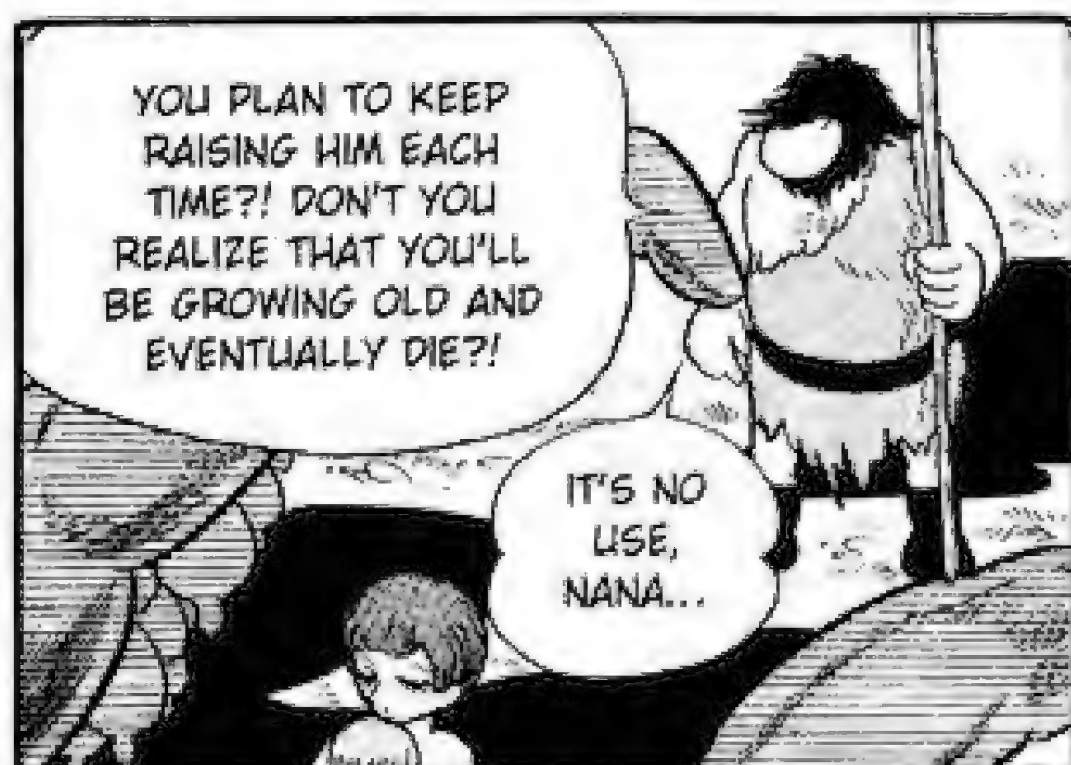
I KNOW....

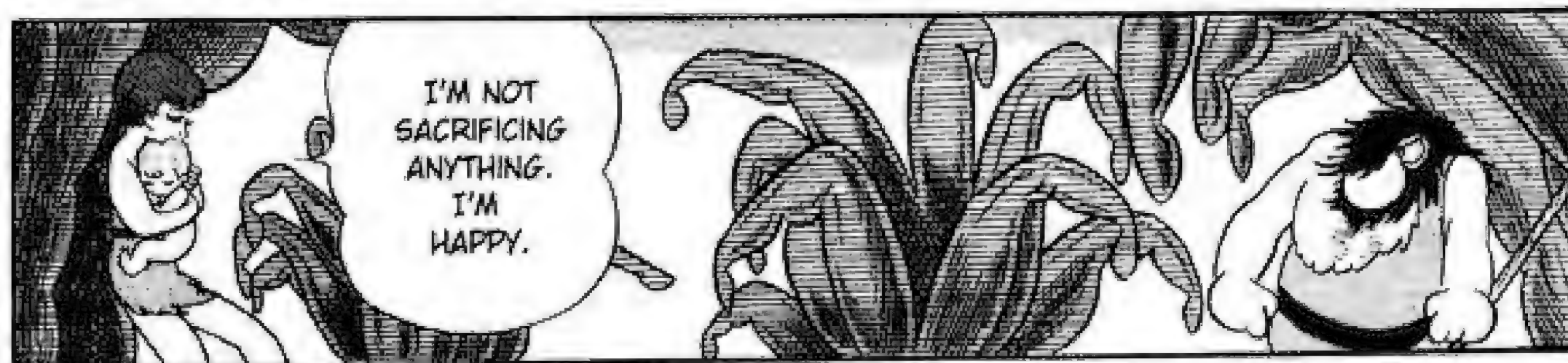


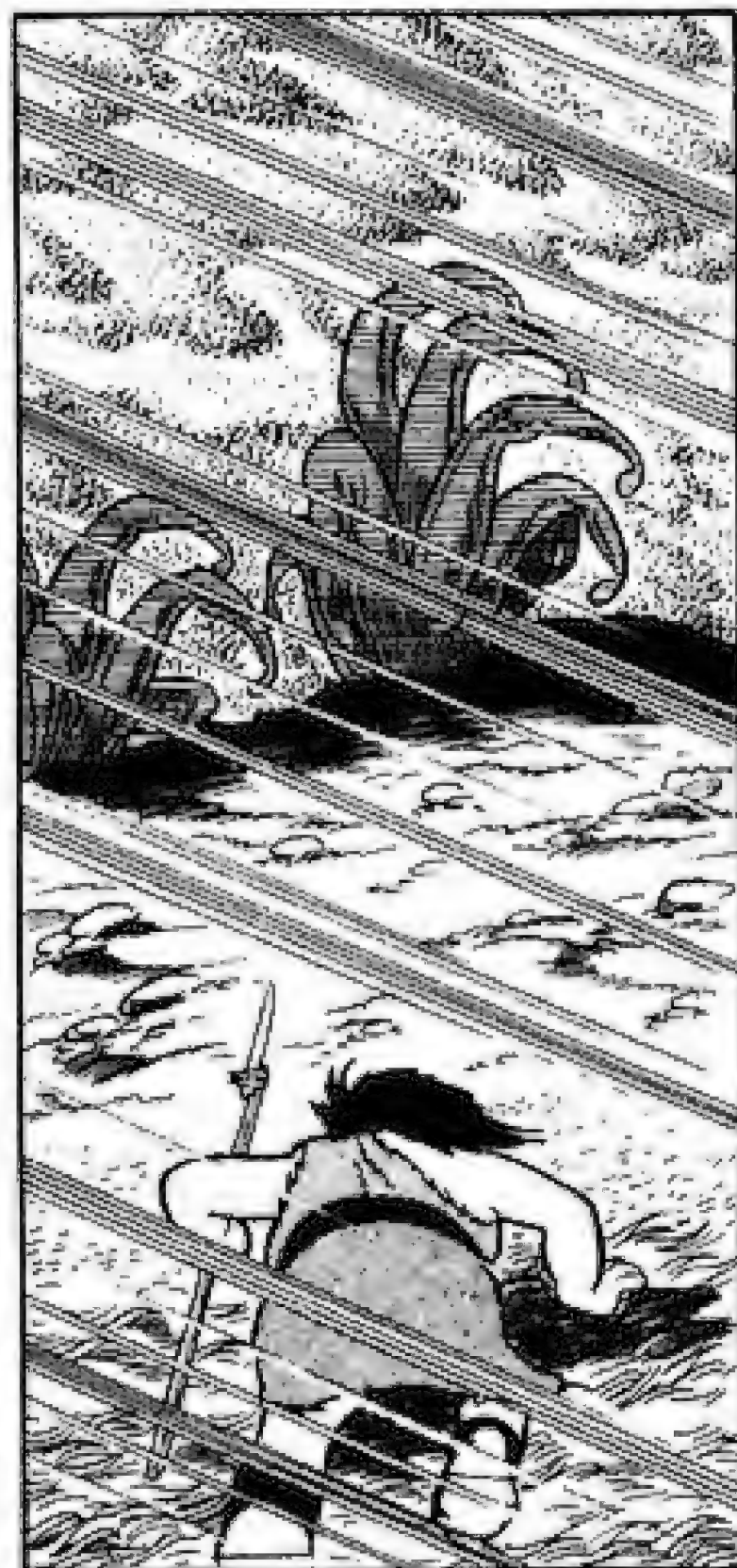
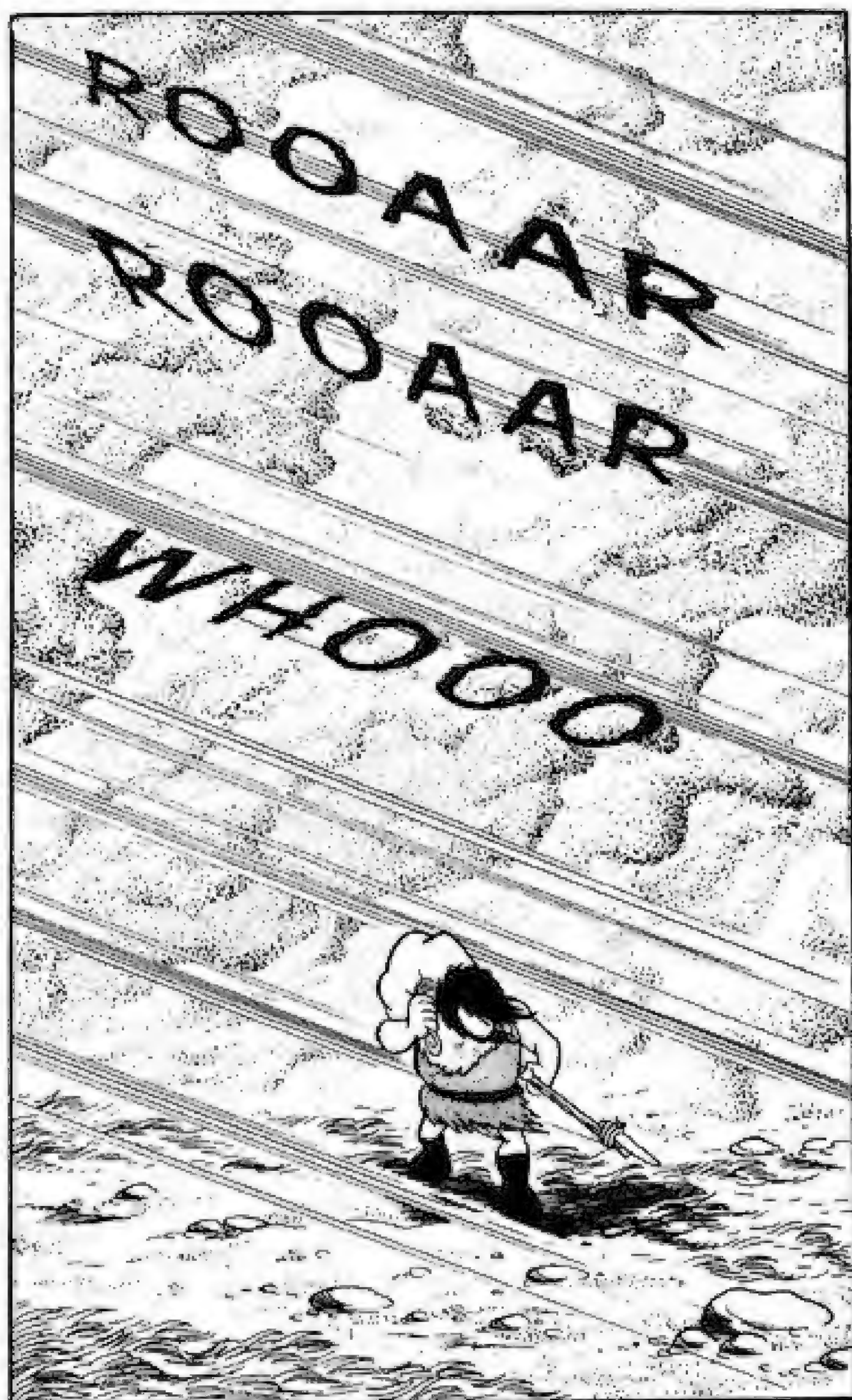
SARUTA, HAVE YOU SEEN
THOSE STRANGE THINGS
GROWING ON THE HILL?

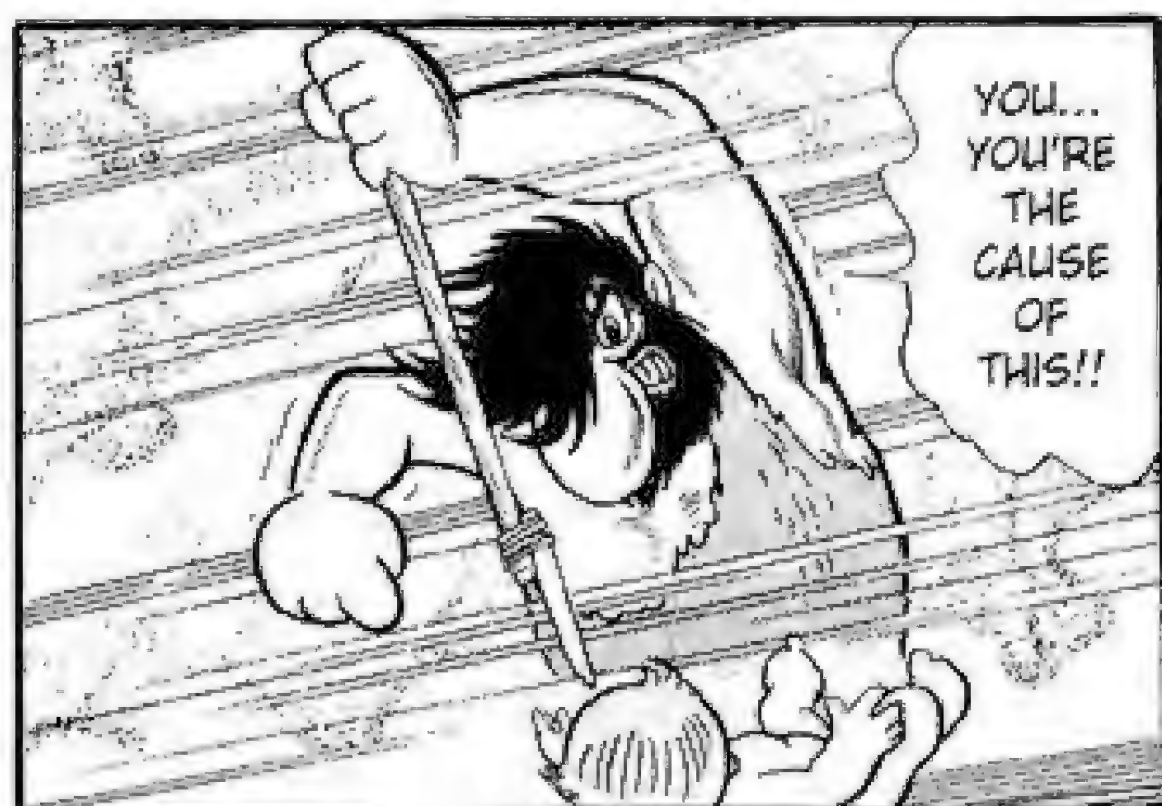
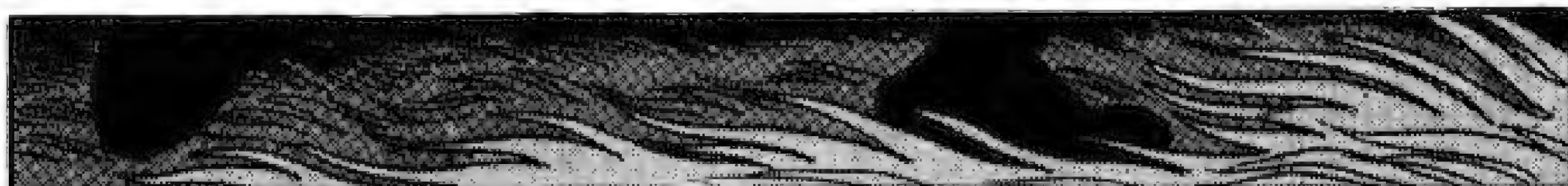




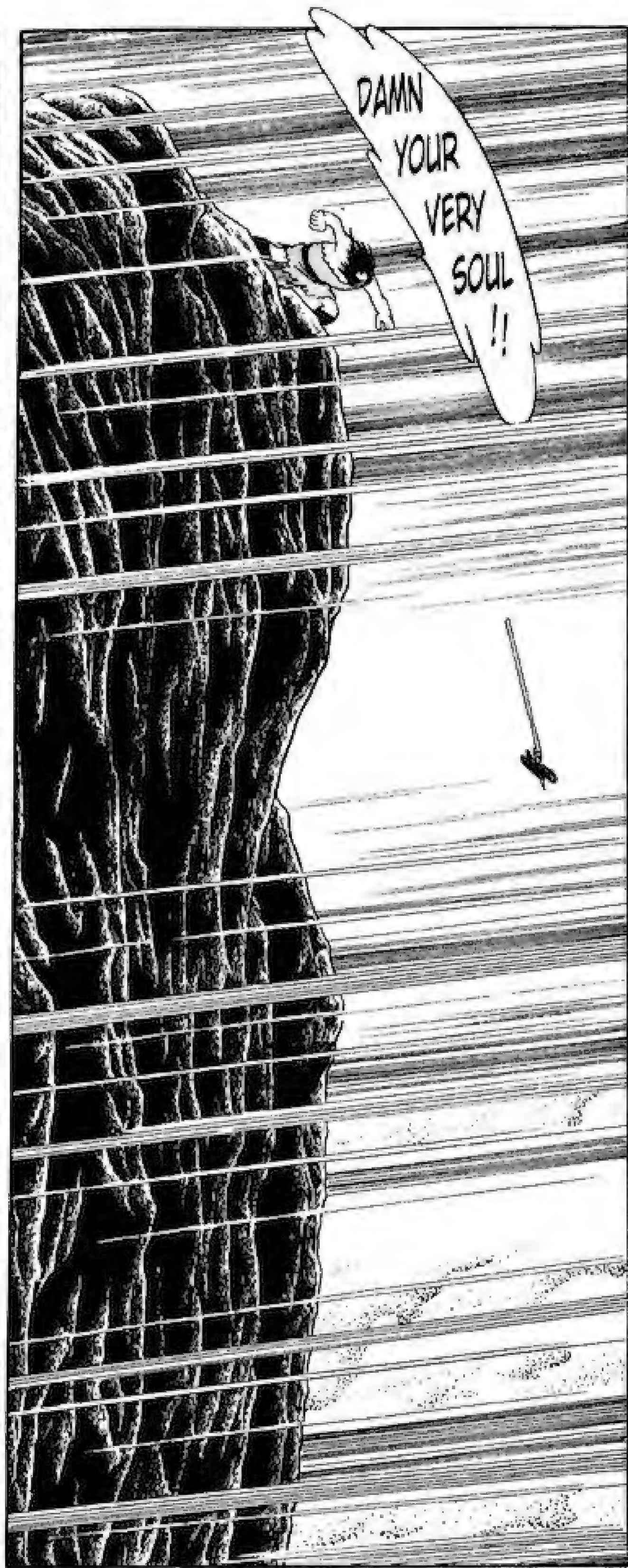




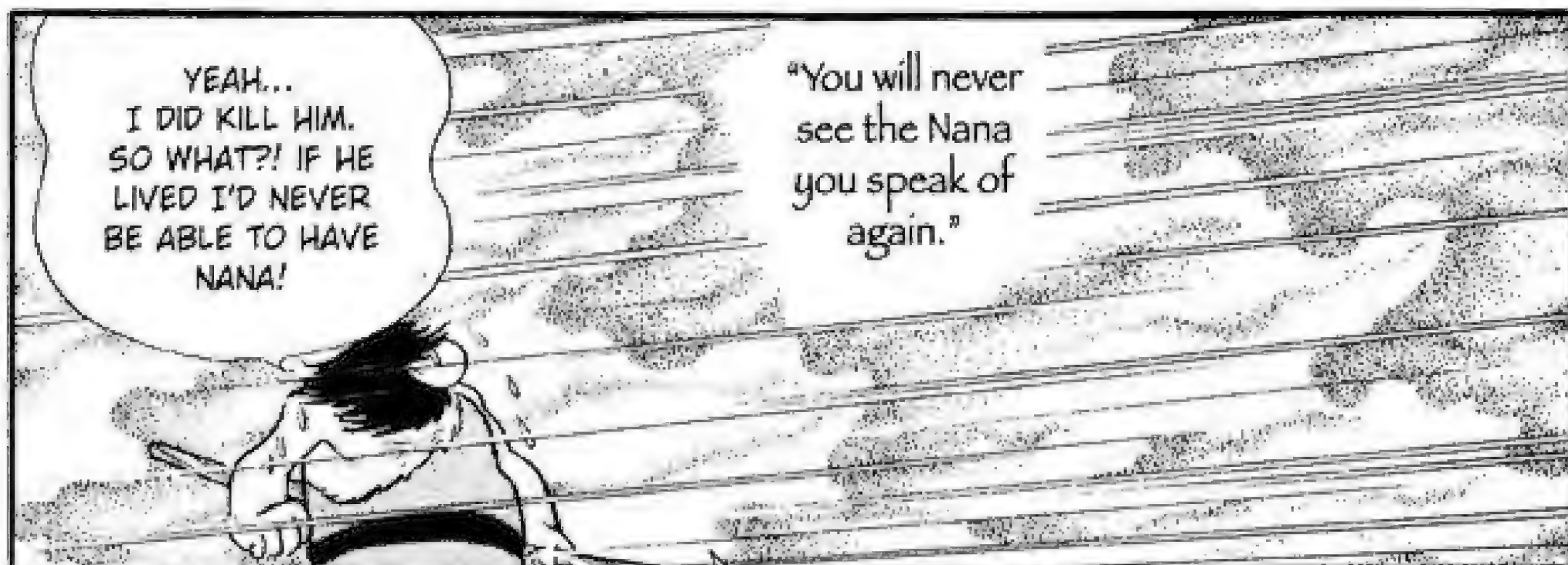


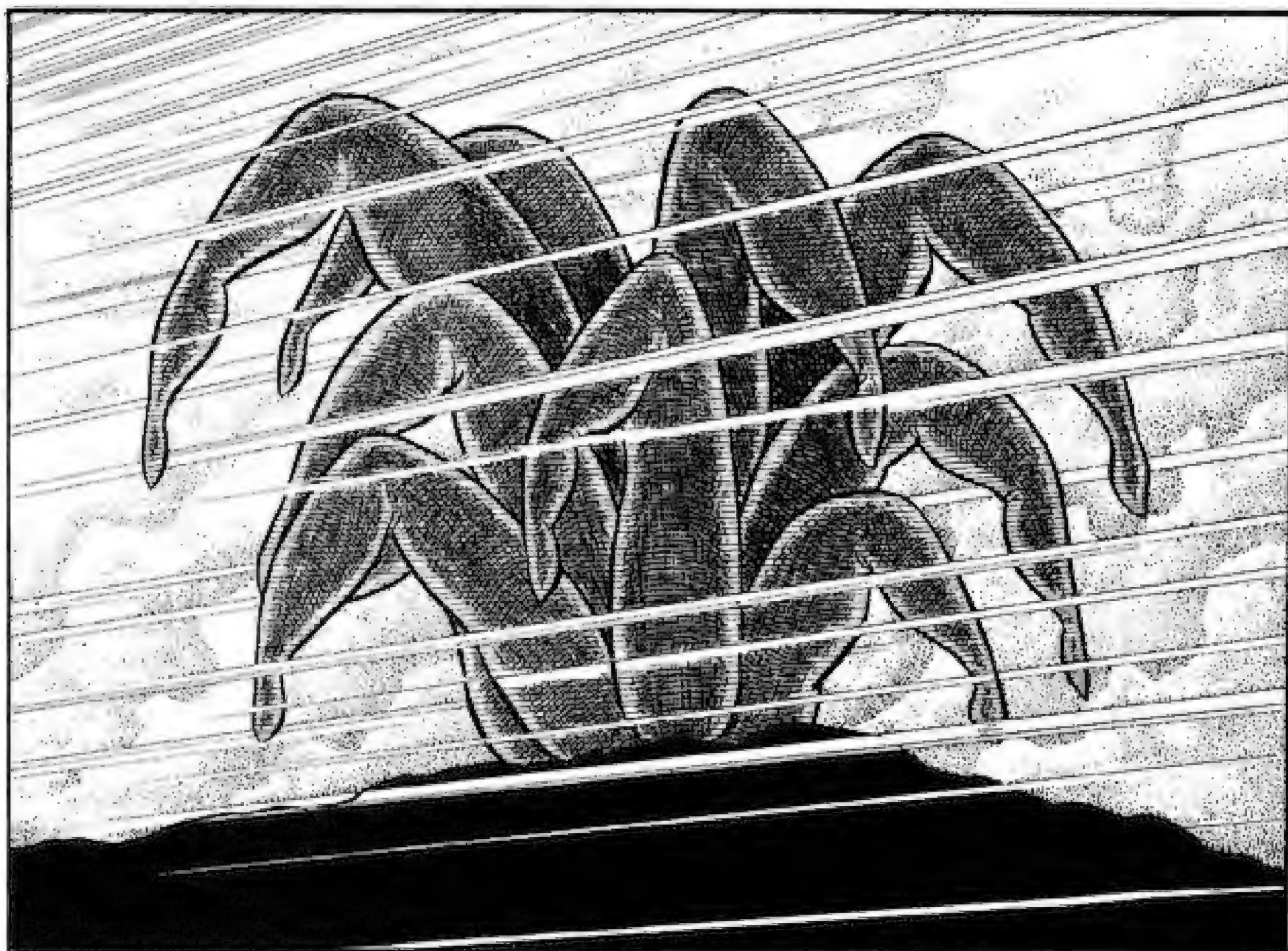


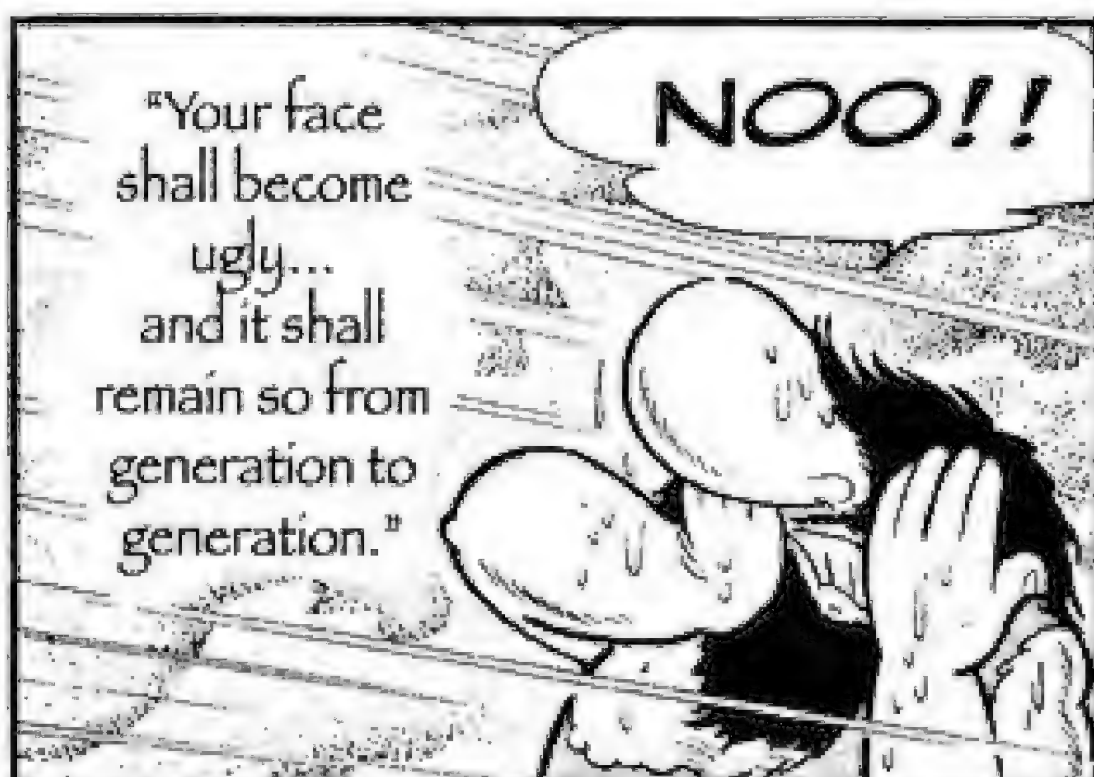
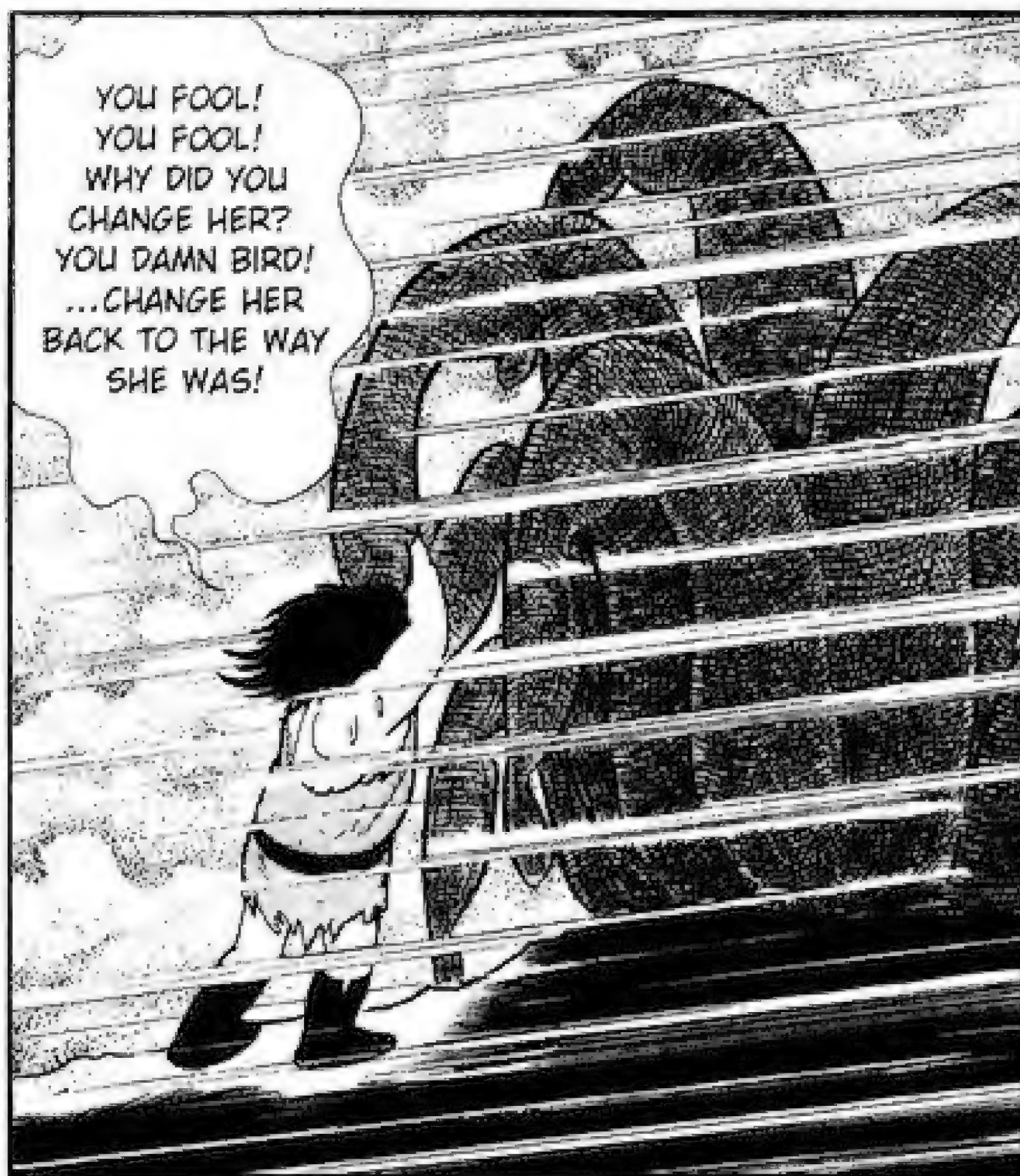






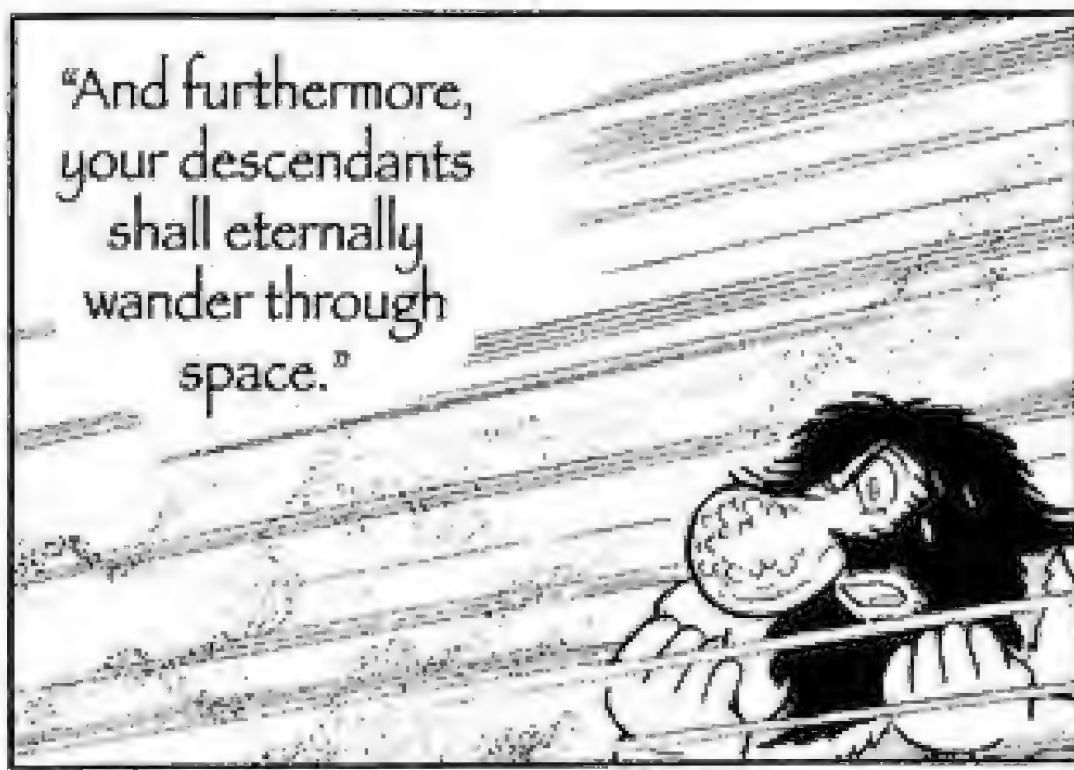






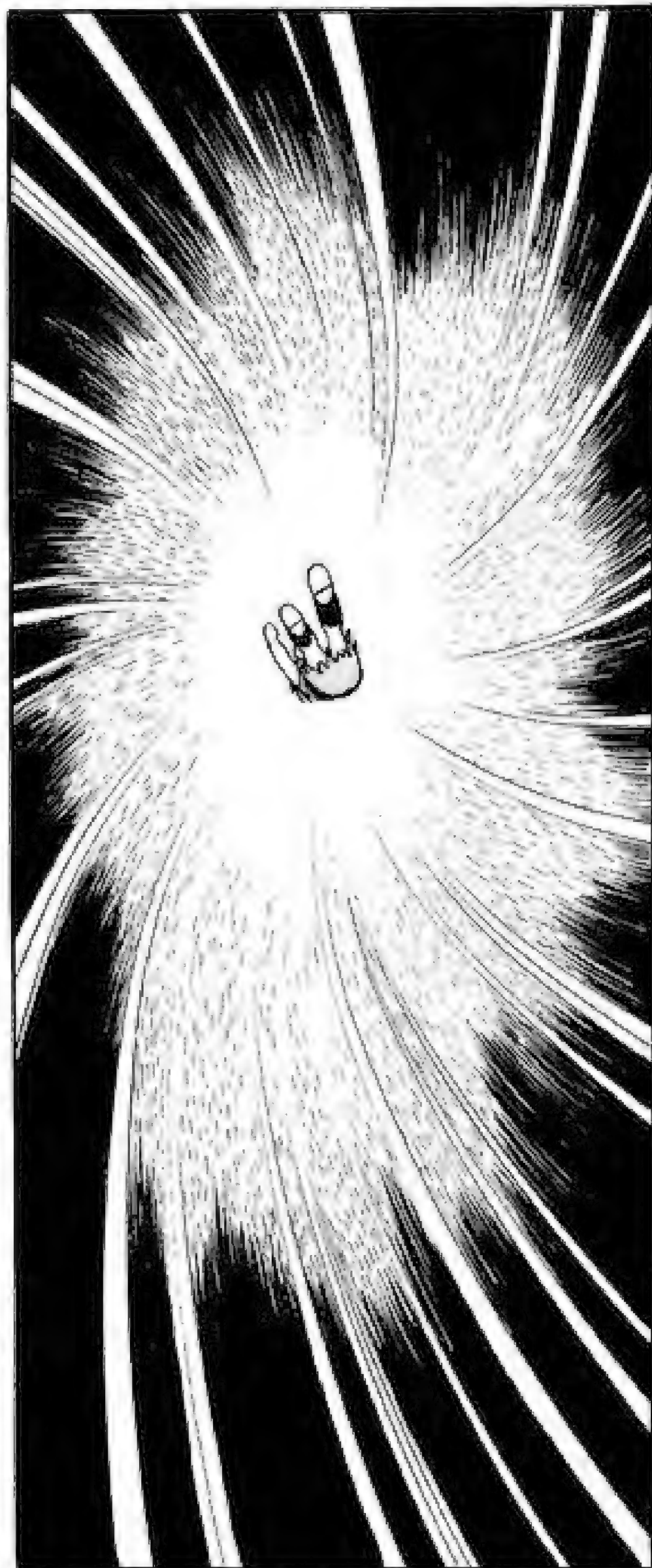


"And furthermore,
your descendants
shall eternally
wander through
space."



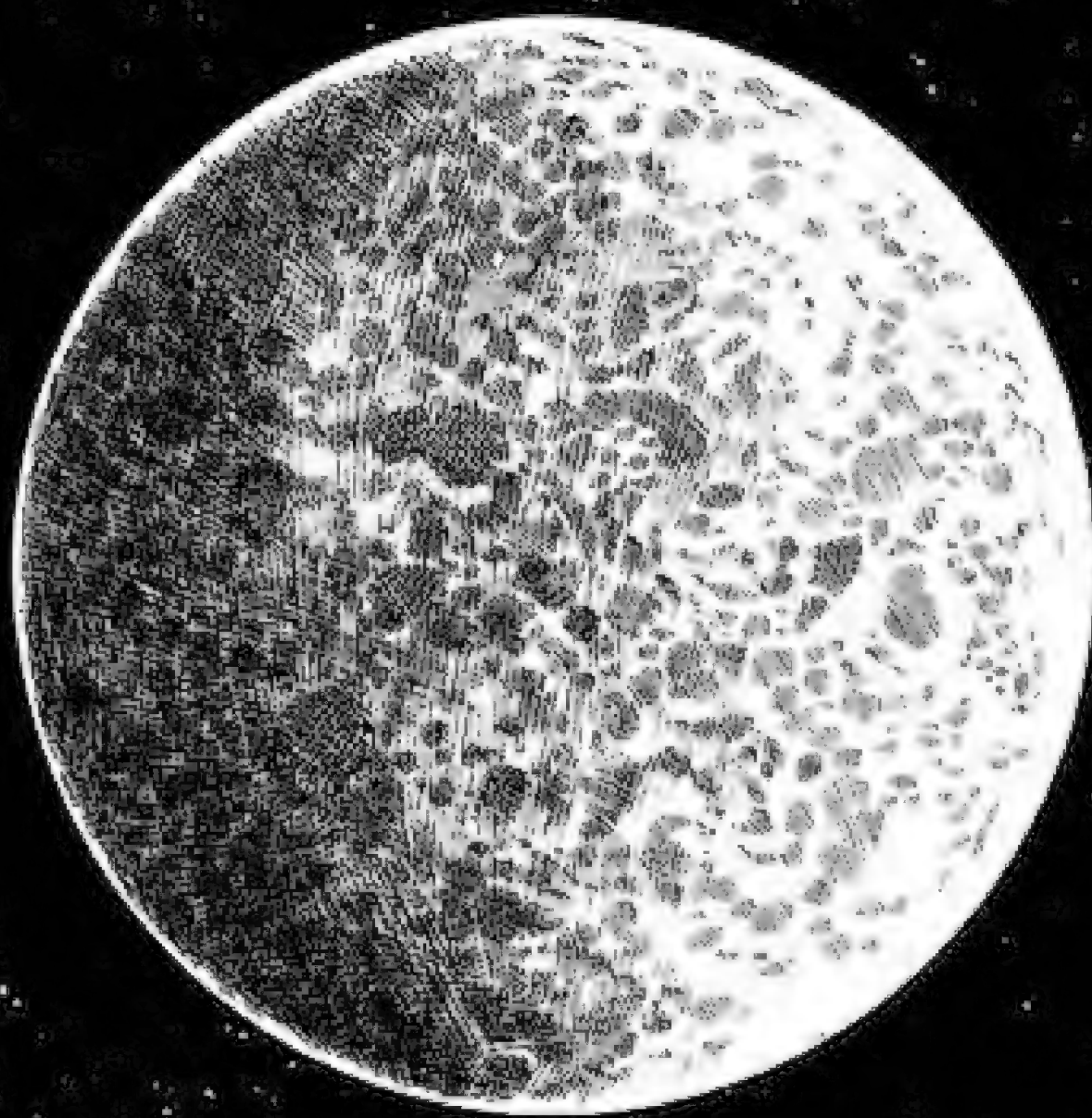
"This is your
punishment.
Now, return to
Earth!"

NOOOOO!

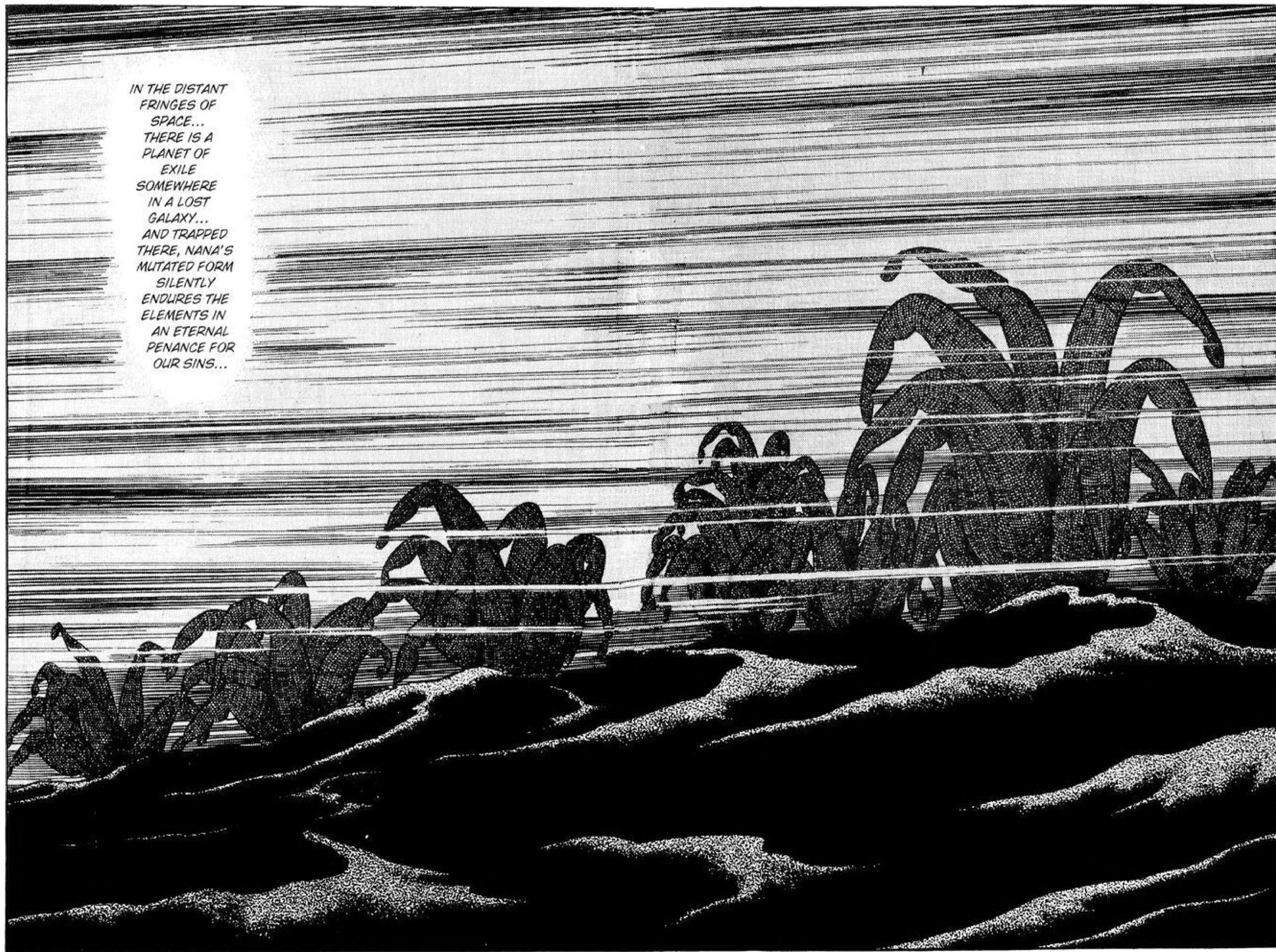


THE NEXT
INSTANT I
FOUND
MYSELF ON
EARTH.
MY FACE WAS
SO HORRIBLY
DISFIGURED
THAT PEOPLE
AVERTED
THEIR EYES.

THUS I WAS THE ONLY MEMBER OF
OUR CREW TO SAFELY REACH EARTH,
BUT NO MATTER WHOM I TELL MY
STORY TO, NO ONE BELIEVES ME.
THE EXISTENCE OF SOMETHING
SUPERNATURAL LIKE THE BIRD OF
FIRE MAY SOUND FANTASTIC...
BUT I DID SEE HER!
THE BIRD OF FIRE...SPACE...NANA...
ALL REFUSE TO FADE
FROM MY MEMORY.



IN THE DISTANT
FRINGES OF
SPACE...
THERE IS A
PLANET OF
EXILE
SOMEWHERE
IN A LOST
GALAXY...
AND TRAPPED
THERE, NANA'S
MUTATED FORM
SILENTLY
ENDURES THE
ELEMENTS IN
AN ETERNAL
PENANCE FOR
OUR SINS...



ABOUT THIS EDITION OF *PHOENIX*: *YAMATO / SPACE*

The twelve self-contained yet interlinked stories that compose *Phoenix* (*Hi no tori* in Japanese, literally “Firebird”) is considered by many to be the summit of Osamu Tezuka’s artistic achievement. Tezuka himself referred to *Phoenix* as his “life work.” Painstakingly composed over a span decades (initial versions appeared as early as 1954), serialized in a number of venues, and left incomplete with Tezuka’s death in 1989, *Phoenix* represents Tezuka’s ambitious attempt to push all he knew about the comics medium to address fundamental questions about existence.

All twelve stories in *Phoenix* are linked by the presence of the mythical bird, an immortal guardian of the universal life force. Read in order, the separate stories jump across time, alternating between a distant future and a distant past, converging on the present, with characters from one story being reincarnated in another. The existing twelve stories, totaling over three thousand pages of work, are subtitled “Dawn,” “Future,” “Yamato,” “Space,” “Hou-ou,” “Resurrection,” “Robe of Feathers,” “Nostalgia,” “Civil War,” “Life,” “Strange Beings,” and “Sun.”

This edition, *Phoenix: Yamato/Space* (or in Japanese, *Yamato hen* and *Uchû hen*), is an English translation of the third and fourth of the twelve *Phoenix* stories. “Yamato” was first serialized from September 1968 to February 1969, and “Space” was first serialized from March to July 1969, both in the monthly magazine *COM*, which was published by Tezuka as a venue to feature work too challenging or experimental for inclusion in mainstream manga magazines. The first and second volume of the series, *Phoenix: Dawn* and *Phoenix: A Tale of the Future*, respectively, were published in English by VIZ. A 27-page excerpt from “Hou-ou” appears in English in Frederik L. Schodt’s *Manga! Manga! The World of Japanese Comics*.

ABOUT THE ARTIST



The Osaka-born Osamu Tezuka (1928-1989) has been long regarded in his native Japan as a cultural icon and the single artist most responsible for the creation of Japan's vast manga and anime culture. He began to draw shortly after WWII, working on short gag strips. In 1947 Tezuka had his first big hit, *Shintakarajima* (New Treasure Island), a 200-page comic drawn when Tezuka was still a medical student that revolutionized the "decompressed storytelling" style that is now the birthright of all Japanese comics.

Tezuka went on, in both short and long narratives, to master and/or invent virtually every genre of the comics form—sci-fi, fantasy, mystery, spy, horror, historical drama, political drama, transforming robots, Shakespearean adaptation, even sex-ed comics—including pioneering the *shojo* (girls') manga genre with *Ribon no Kishi* (aka *Princess Knight*, 1953-6). In 1952 Tezuka created his most beloved work, the robot-boy sci-fi series *Tetsuwan Atom* (aka *Astro Boy*). Other popular Tezuka works include the talking-animal saga *Jungle Taitei* (aka *Kimba, the White Lion*, 1950-4) and the outlaw-surgeon adventure series *Black Jack* (1973-84).

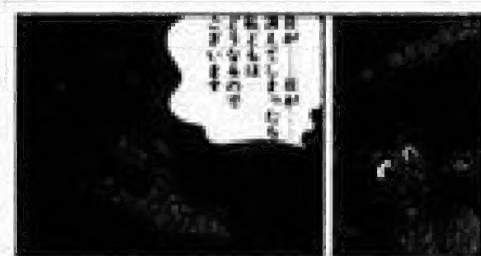
By the mid-sixties Tezuka was a pioneering animator as well as the most popular artist in history of Japanese comics, yet he continued to fervently reinvent manga forms. The early volumes of *Phoenix*, which began to be serialized in the pages of Tezuka's experimental *COM* magazine in 1967, were Tezuka's bold attempt to expand comics' artistic and demographic reach. Among Tezuka's finest works in this high literary mode are *Buddha* (1972-83), a biography of the religious teacher, and the complex and moving WWII saga *Adolf* (1983-5). In the West, Tezuka's reputation and renown continues to grow. The recent hit anime *Metropolis* (2001) is based on one of Tezuka's earliest works from 1949.

A Journey through Time and Space: An Overview of the Complete *Phoenix* Saga

The complete *Phoenix* saga is a story about mankind that features a historical-narrative structure unlike anything that has come before it. The first volume depicts the dawn of civilization. The second volume jumps to the far future. The setting for the third story shifts back to early history, and so on, back and forth, from past to future; the amplitude decreases as past and future converge to meet in the present.

Dawn (1967) 240-270 A.D.

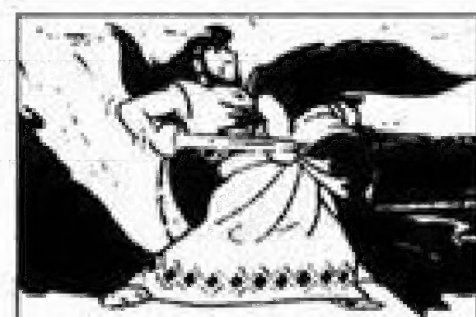
The era of Queen Himiko of the Yamatai Koku. The work quotes from the accounts of the *Gishiwajinden*. Also uses accounts from the legend of *Jinmu Tousei*.



The scene in the Amano Iwato myth where Himiko compares herself to Amaterasu-Omikami and a solar eclipse occurs.

Yamato (1968-69) 320-350 A.D.

Based on the legend of Yamato-takeru-no-mikoto. The dates above were inferred from the account of Old Man Takeru, and from information in *Dawn*.



Disguised as a woman, Prince Yamato Ogura approaches the Chieftain of the Kumaso and stabs him. As told in the Kiki myth, the prince gets the name "Takeru" from his opponent right before he dies.

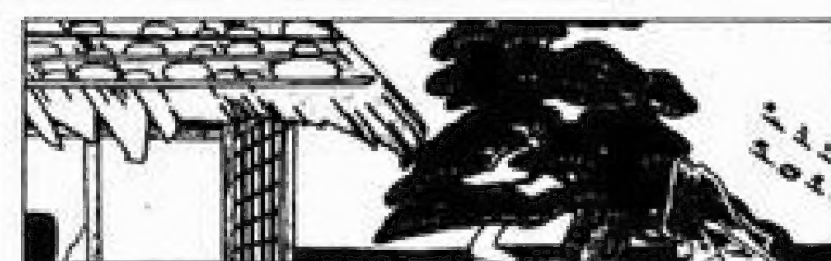
Karma (Hou-ou) (1969-70) 720-752 A.D.

The complicated drama of the spirit of two Buddhist sculptors. Set in the Nara Period (710-794) during the national enterprise of the construction of the Great Buddha. Here, the Hou-ou (a Chinese myth) is the Phoenix.



Akanemaru, who has been ordered by the authorities to be in charge of the construction and design of the Great Buddha, is shocked when the statue sheds tears. The workers become frightened, and the bizarre phenomenon halts construction.

Robe of Feathers (1971) 937-941 A.D.



The spirit of a fisherman is bewitched by the beauty of the woman and he hides her clothes...

A sci-fi version of the Hagoromo Legend of Miho no Matsubara in Enshu (modern day Shizuoka). Set during Taira no Masakado's rebellion which occurred during the Heian Period (898-1185).

The spirit of a woman swimming in the ocean is captured by the beauty of the white sand and green pine.

Civil War (1978-80) 1172-1189 A.D.

The time of the Genpei Kassen (War between the Taira and the Genji) after the fall of the Heishi (Taira Clan). Using the *Heike Monogatari* and *Gikeiki* as a backdrop, this story depicts "combat" as the fate of living things.

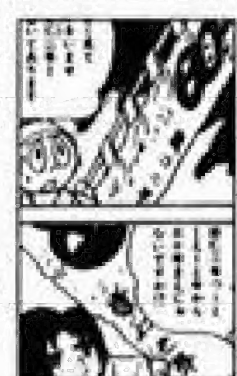


Kiso Yoshinaka defeats the Heishi and takes control of the capital. He cuts down the famous monk Myoun. He came to the capital because he is after the Phoenix.

Strange Beings (1981) 1468-1498 A.D.

The Sengoku Period (1482-1558). Sakonnosuke, the heir of General Yagi Iemasa, cuts down the nun, Yaobikuni, who seems to be 800 years old. But she doesn't realize the true relationship between herself and the nun.

The banner bearer is saying that "now" is the beginning of the Sengoku Wars and they are in the middle of the Onin Rebellion. In other words, they are in a time before Sakonnosuke was born!



Sun (1986-88) 663-672 A.D.

The story begins after the defeat of the Japan-Kudara alliance at Hakusukinoe and Japan's withdrawal from the Korean peninsula, and ends with the struggle for the imperial throne during the Jinshin Rebellion.



Emperor Kobun, formerly called Otomo no Miko, is the cousin of Takachi no Miko, who is the son of Oama no Miko.

Future (1967-68) 3404 A.D.-infinity

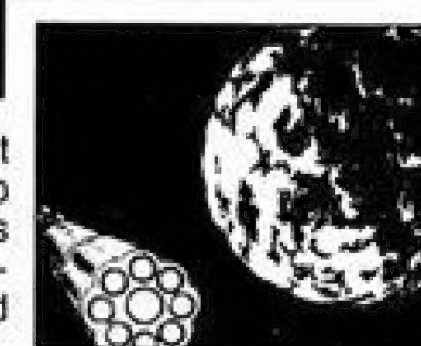
The end of the future. Mankind is in decline and has become very conservative. The earth is run down and faces devastation. Eventually a nuclear war breaks out causing the end of everything.

The Yamato Central Main Building Megalopolis. Yamato is one of the five remaining underground cities of mankind.



Universe (1969) 2577 A.D.

In Orion, a sub-light speed rocket heading towards Earth crashes into a meteorite. The ship becomes unable to fly and four people manage to escape, including Saruta and Nana.



Each of the passengers escapes in an individual escape pod. However, the pods only have enough food for half a year and enough air for a year and a half. Possibilities of survival are...

Resurrection (1970-71) 2482-3344 A.D.

In the year 3344, Prof. Saruta lands on the moon. He meets and acquires Robita in his final form. Spanning 860 years, the end of this episode goes beyond *Universe* and close to the beginning of *Future*.

Robita and this rocket also make appearances in *Future*, where Robita stops Rock and then gets shot by him.



Nostalgia (1976-78) Indeterminate (approx. 25th century)

A Japanese woman named Romy establishes a civilization and history for the formerly uninhabited planet, Eden-17. Her husband dies an unnatural death, but the life she carries inside her...

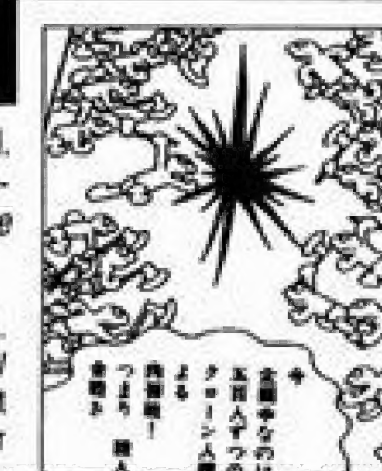


The spaceship is headed for Eden-17. The shiny object in the foreground is its sun. The planet is surrounded by a revolving ring of space dust held there by gravity.

Life (1980) 2155-2170 A.D.

Human clones are being created. It's all for high ratings and a public-killing TV game show called *Clone Man Hunt*.

Animal clones were created for food. Human clones are created for a TV show—the cloning company president speaks as a sponsor. A terrifying plan for a TV show!



Sun (1986-88) 2008 A.D.

The "Light Tribe" acquired the Phoenix in space. However, they turn it into an icon and come to control society through religion. Non-believers are called "shadows" and are chased out to live underground.

The head temple of the "Light Tribe." A young shadow boy named Suguru endeavors to climb the great tower and steal the Phoenix.

